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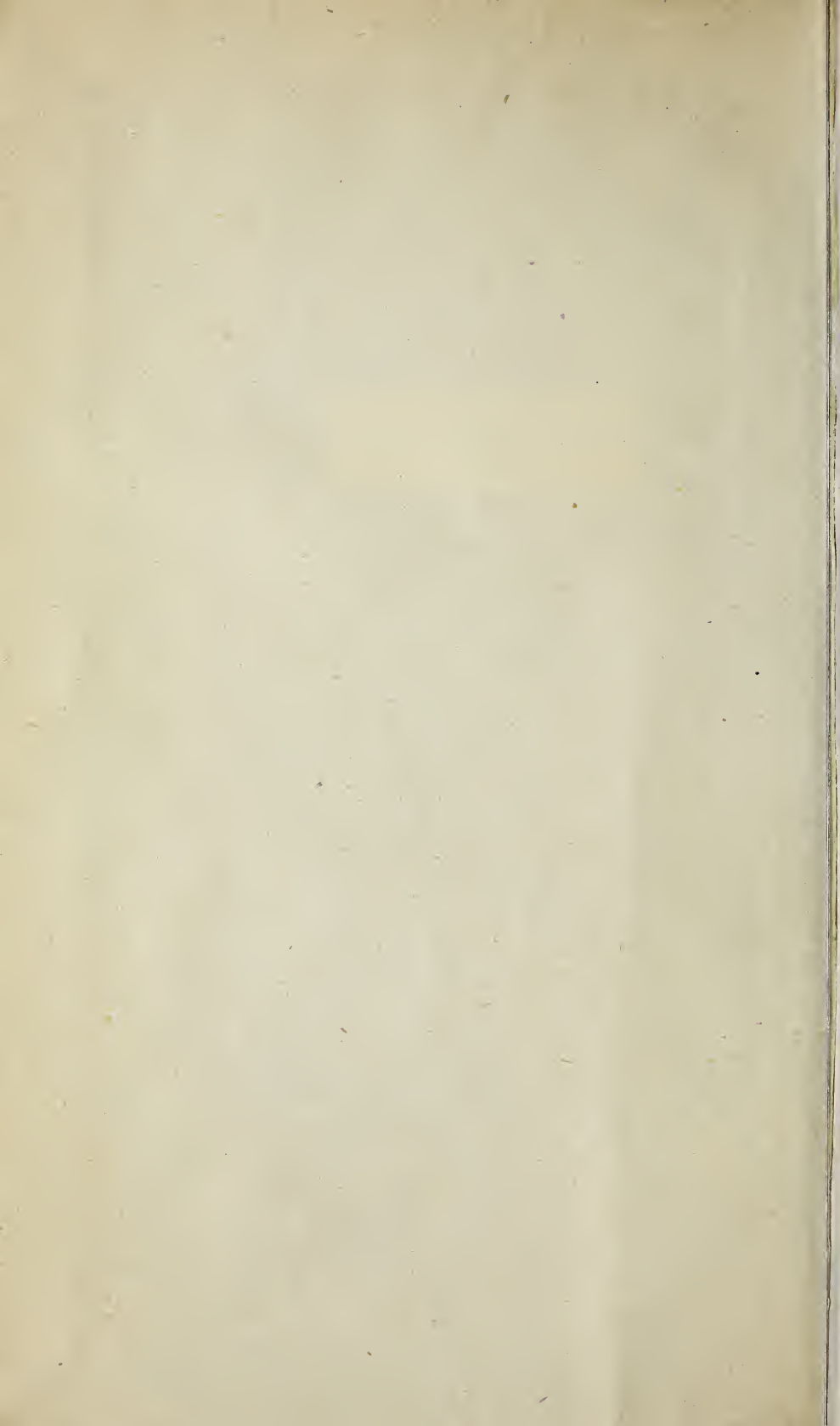
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HISTORIES

OF

WATERBEACH, LANDBEACH, HORNINGSEY,

AND MILTON.

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Cambridge :

PRINTED BY C. J. CLAY, M.A.,
AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS.

HISTORIES
OF
THE FOUR ADJOINING PARISHES
OF
WATERBEACH, LANDBEACH,
HORNINGSSEY, AND MILTON,
IN THE
County of Cambridge.

BY
WILLIAM KEATINGE CLAY, B.D.,
VICAR OF WATERBEACH.



Cambridge :
PRINTED FOR THE CAMBRIDGE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY.
SOLD BY DEIGHTON, BELL, AND CO., AND
MACMILLAN AND CO.

1861—1869.

[i.e. 1859-'69]

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F. G. Lewis, del.

WATERBURY

A HISTORY
OF THE
PARISH OF WATERBEACH
IN THE
COUNTY OF CAMBRIDGE.

BY
WILLIAM KEATINGE CLAY, B.D.
VICAR.

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BELL AND DALDY, FLEET STREET ; J. R. SMITH, SOHO SQUARE,
LONDON.

1859.



P R E F A C E.

THE Rev. Robert Masters printed in 1795 for distribution among his friends a few copies of—A Short Account of the Parish of Waterbeach in the diocese of Ely, by a late Vicar, pp. 56. His pamphlet it was first proposed to reprint with those additions only, which were demanded to bring it down to the present time. But, on examining its pages somewhat attentively, such a new edition of it was found to be unadvisable, both for other reasons, and because even the information it professes to communicate is extremely incomplete.

These circumstances in connexion with the pamphlet of 1795 it seemed requisite to notice; at the same time it behoves us by no means to leave out of sight the important fact, to which its faults and deficiencies were mainly due. Mr Masters, who died in 1798, (not, as stated on p. 70, in 1797), had passed the eightieth year of his age before he committed it to the press: consequently, he had then, we may allowably conceive, lost as well his accurate memory, as in a considerable degree his diligence, and usual powers of research. His ‘Short Account,’ therefore, is no longer, to the extent it

was intended to be, the foundation of the 'History' here put forth; nevertheless, it did suggest the mode of arrangement, and has likewise occasionally supplied a few sentences, though, when Mr Masters' materials have been used, the language employed by him has been altered without scruple, and, if considered necessary, the sentences themselves have been placed in quite a different order.

The object aimed at has been, not only to give a reliable History of the very interesting parish of Waterbeach, but to render that History as full as is consistent with the manner of its publication, neither, on the one hand, loading it (which might easily have been done) with matter, so as unreasonably to increase its bulk, nor, on the other, omitting anything indispensable to set the subject properly before the reader. To carry out satisfactorily an object so desirable no pains have been spared: information has been sought, wherever it appeared likely to be obtained. Moreover, the ready assistance of others has not been wanting in the way of addition and improvement. It is still possible, that points, of importance, perhaps, have been passed over; it is also possible, that mistakes, and on things of moment, have been committed, in a work, whose almost every line contains the assertion of some fact.

For a very few things the authority of Mr Masters has been depended upon, inasmuch as no trace could be discovered of the source of his information. Allusion is particularly made to the con-

test, which he twice asserts to have happened, between the prior and convent of Barnwell, and the Knights Templars, respecting the advowson of the vicarage¹. It is, of course, an occurrence which, from the known character of that warlike body, no less than from their vast power, might of itself be pronounced not improbable. The Year-Books would assuredly have noticed a dispute, which ended by being carried into the King's Bench, had they begun so early. But this event took place in the reign of Edward I., and they did not commence regularly to hand down judicial decisions until the reign of his son. A few cases indeed are therein reported connected with the preceding reign; they are, however, very few, and that of Waterbeach is not among them.

Another circumstance requires to be mentioned, which only came to the writer's knowledge, whilst this Preface was going through the press. By an Act passed in the last session of Parliament (21 and 22 Vict. cap. 94), entitled an Act to amend the Copyhold Acts, the enfranchisement of copyhold land all over the kingdom has been rendered compulsory, as regards both the owners of manors, and the tenants thereof. This Act, too, has been already begun to be carried into execution in this parish. Therefore after a very few years the manor of Waterbeach cum Denney, of which an historical

¹ See p. 28; *Short Account*, pp. 24, 41. The *Ledger-book of Barnwell*, on examination, does not appear to refer to it. Harleian MSS. No. 7036, that is, Baker's MSS. Vol. ix.

account will be found in the following pamphlet, so far at least as pertains to the holding of houses and land under it, will necessarily become extinct.

The Rev. Thomas Cooke Burroughes, formerly fellow of Caius College, B.A. 1778, son-in-law of Mr Masters, and his successor by exchange in the rectory of Landbeach, designed to publish a second edition of his father-in-law's 'Short Account.' Simply a reprint was contemplated by him, with a view of Waterbeach church, of which he had both procured a plate to be engraved, and caused an unusually large number of impressions therefrom to be struck off. Mr Burroughes, however, died suddenly in 1821, in the midst of his preparations; and his papers, after lying unused for nearly forty years, fell very recently into the hands of Mr Charles Cardale Babington, who has kindly permitted the view of the church to be placed as a frontispiece to the present 'History.'

That view cannot be permitted to pass without a few observations. The windows are inserted in their right places, but are none of them accurately drawn, unless it may be that on the north side of the old chancel, respecting which no judgment is now able to be formed: no inscription or ornament exists round the top of the entrance to the porch¹: two mural tablets of recent date ought to be represented on the west wall of the aisle; the clock on the north face of the tower, and in a line with

¹ The old porch with its windows, and stone seats, at the sides, had not long been taken down.

the battlements, has been left out: the tower itself should have a wider west face: neither the weathercock, nor its support, resembles that actually existing; whilst the whole building seems to stand on an elevation, instead of being, as is the case, at least, externally, from successive accumulations in the churchyard, entirely on a level with the road. So also the churchyard is rounded off too much, supposing it to have been, at the time of taking the sketch (as it certainly was), similar in shape to what it is at present: besides, it is without trees, all of them having been planted since the death of Mr Burroughes: it is likewise nearly without tombstones, which must have been, and is, equally contrary to the truth. In fact, the general character of the church and churchyard is given correctly, and is such as no one could easily mistake. But scarcely any thing more can be said in favour of the engraving; though, not to condemn unnecessarily, it must be added, that, if some of its defects, and important ones too, are attributable to the artist, others, as has been hinted, are equally the result of those changes which the lapse of time inevitably brings with it.

Mr Burroughes had made similar preparations with respect to a History of his own parish of Landbeach, which he had drawn up for publication from Mr Masters' papers. Neither, however, could this intention be gone on with for the reason mentioned above; and, should any one now take it up, and wish to complete it, he must not expect to

be assisted in any material degree by what has been already done.

The gentlemen, to whom obligations ought to be acknowledged, are first, the members of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society, at whose expence this History has been printed; then C. C. Babington, Esq. of St John's College, the Rev. J. E. B. Mayor, fellow of the same college, G. E. Foster, and C. H. Cooper, Esquires, of Cambridge.

THE VICARAGE, WATERBEACH,
Jan. 1, 1859.

ERRATA.

- P. 65, l. 3, *for* Balanquallus *read* Balcanquallus
 77, note 1, *dele* Vol.
 95, last line, *for* Robert Winchelsey *read* William de Gaynesburgh
 97, l. 15, *dele* cum Denney

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DIRECTIONS TO BINDER.

View of the Church *to face the title-page.*

Seal of Denney Abbey, A.D. 1813, *to face p. 105.*

Interior of Refectory *to face p. 136.*



HISTORY OF WATERBEACH.

THE PARISH.

THE Romans, during their occupation of Britain, may not have had much to do with that portion of it, which forms the parish of Waterbeach; nevertheless the coins, swords, and other antiquities, sometimes lighted upon, testify to the existence of individuals at least of that nation in the neighbourhood of the river.

We equally meet with marks of the same people in quite an opposite direction, but of a very different kind, and such as do not at all imply inhabitation. For a Roman road, the Akeman street¹, anciently passed through what is now the north-west corner of the parish. This road extended from Cirencester² to Cambridge and Ely, and thence by Southery and Downham Market to Brancaster near Lynn. It is still perfectly visible, under the form of a country lane, called Millway, from the King's Hedges in Chesterton, as far as Landbeach: it can then be faintly traced to its junction at Goose hall with the Cambridge and Ely road, which indicates its course³ for a short distance; but, just past Denney Abbey,

¹ Streetham, or Stretham, was so named from being situated on this line of road.

² It really commenced at Bath, and is supposed to have taken its designation from Akemancester, one of the Saxon names for that city.

³ In 1757 Bentham asked, 'whether there is not an ancient Road from *Ely* to *Cambridge*, the site of which in some places, and the materials in others, would be of great service for making a new one?' *Queries, &c.* p. 17. The 'new one' was made by Act of Parliament

it bore slightly to the right of the high road, as may clearly be seen by means of a line of hedge opposite to the eighth mile-stone, and crossed the Old Ouse at a ford near an osier-holt, half a mile below Stretham ferry. Such is Mr Charles Cardale Babington's¹ account of its direction, and it would appear to be the true account: the Ordnance map, on the contrary, lays down the Akeman street, as identical with the Ely road from Goose hall up to the ferry itself, and makes it enter the Isle at that spot. In either case it must be an object of interest to the inhabitants of Waterbeach.

Wells, in his *History of the Bedford Level*², mentions a cut denominated the Car Dyke or Cor Dyke, which Stukeley, both in his *Palæographia*, and in his *Medallic History of Carausius*, particularly describes. This cut exists at the present time, as a navigable canal, going from Ramsey in Huntingdonshire by Peterborough to Lincoln, and is, perhaps, to be traced even as far as the river Trent at Torksey. It is, in fact, a catch-water-drain to the whole North Level of the fens: that is, it runs across the fens near to their western margin, and collects the water from the upland streams, in order to prevent its overflowing the Level. Stukeley fancied that, in the year 291, it was made, or, at least, restored, by Carausius, the Roman emperor of Britain, and extended southwards from Ramsey by Earith, and Chayre fen in the parish of Cottenham, to Waterbeach and the Cam, for the purpose of conveying the corn grown in the rich arable districts of Cambridgeshire to York, the Roman capital of Britain. That eminent antiquary may have been correct in ascribing the formation of the cut to the Romans, and, equally so, in assigning the cause of its being made; but few will join him in the belief, about 1763, under the active patronage of Bishop Mawson, and is the present high road. Previously the principal communication between Ely and Cambridge had been by water, especially in the winter season.

¹ *Ancient Cambridgeshire*, pp. 10, &c.

² Vol. I. p. 60.

that it was a work of Carausius, or that the same emperor founded Cambridge, and called it Granta (Camboritum being its usual Roman designation), as part of his plan. Car, which led to the introduction of Carausius' name, is an old word signifying, amongst other things, a hollow place or fen, and, therefore, Car Dyke would appear to mean simply a catch-water-drain.

The portion of this canal, with which we are now especially interested, commenced by a junction with the river Cam at some point a short distance above Waterbeach, though the exact spot is no longer determinable. It first becomes visible near the Eastern Counties railway, a little to the south-east of the church, where its depressed bed may be seen crossing a field: it then shows itself by a deep artificial cut, which the country people name "The Old Tillage:" next, it runs along the side of the village road to Cambridge; through the premises of Mr Youngman and Mrs Hall, parallel to the Cambridge and Ely road as far as Goose hall; afterwards, through a part of Landbeach and Chayre fen, until it joins the ancient channel of the Ouse, styled the Old Ouse, or West Water. Tokens of its existence and use in early days are not wanting. About 1820, when a well was being sunk for the house at present occupied by Mrs Hall, the workmen came upon the fragments of two boats or canoes, which, from their shape, must have remained there for many centuries.

Dugdale¹ believed the Grant or Cam to have once passed that way to join the Ouse, and to have been subsequently diverted into the channel, in which it now runs, another branch of the same river, as a straighter course. He, probably, never examined the ground; since, if the levels of the country are considered, it seems impossible for any one to imagine, that the Cam could of itself have taken such a direction. Assuredly, no water from either river, the Ouse or the Cam, ever entered the supposed Car Dyke, except during exceedingly high floods,

¹ *History of Imbanking and Draining*, p. 373; Babington's *Ancient Cambridgeshire*, pp. 65, &c.

whether from heavy rains, or when the natural channels were much obstructed: in ordinary times, it must have flowed up hill to do so. The head of water was kept up in the cut by some artificial contrivance of the nature of locks, and indications of such a contrivance are thought to have been existing towards the Cottenham end down to a recent period. The word "Tillage" above quoted is clearly a corruption. It has been suggested, that the original word was Twilade, a term still used in Dorsetshire, the meaning of which is, to load and unload, then to return for a second load. If such a notion is correct, the change of level instead of a lock occurred at "The Old Tillage."

Bones of animals are occasionally found in Waterbeach fen, particularly the horns, as well of the British bull as of the red deer, and the tusks of the wild boar. Six years ago a boulder of granite, much weathered, five and a half feet long, three feet broad, and two feet thick, was dug out of Long Denney Bannold, where it had lain embedded for ages: it is now at Denney. Moreover, large oaks, a tree rarely in these days to be met with in Cambridgeshire of any size, lie scattered about in considerable numbers at various depths beneath the present soil, and even at the bottom of the Cam. At a remote period, therefore, the part of the parish next the river, like a considerable extent of land along the coast of Lincolnshire and elsewhere, was all firm ground covered with wood. And we may conceive, with a great appearance of probability, notwithstanding the existence of many other theories on the subject, its fenny state to have been produced by the stagnation of the upland waters, in consequence of their proper outfall into the sea having been blocked up, in consequence perhaps, too, of the tidal waters of the sea preventing in some measure their escape, whilst the clayey nature of the subsoil did not allow of their absorption. As regards the trees, which lie generally in the same direction, either north east or east, though several persons suspect them to have been designedly cut down, and such clearly was the case with a portion of them, whatever may have been the cause, they were

possibly for the most part undermined and overthrown, but some at one time, some at another, (as is evident from their different position with respect to the hard, or original surface of the ground,) by the action of the water, in which they stood; an effect quite in the natural order of things, especially if we take into account the assistance given to it by the winds: the earth round the roots became loosened, and they fell¹.

It is not in any one's power to determine, at what precise period, or under what circumstances, the spot of ground now constituting Waterbeach, first became a place of permanent habitation. Surely, like many, if not most, other villages, it was the mere result of chance. At the same time we ought to remember, that the parish is bounded on the east by a river, and that anciently, as has been observed, a navigable canal also ran completely across the southern part of it, the only part which has ever been regularly occupied. Consequently, the position alone of the land in relation to the water must have tended to invite settlers, and such settlers may have come hither by boat from the more immediate neighbourhood, or from Chesterton, Cambridge, and Ely, at which places the Romans on the one hand, and the nuns and monks, at a later period, on the other, had gradually collected around them much people of all kinds.

But, let this be as it may, we know of a village existing here very early, though Domesday Book, (wherein we find an account of Bech among the villages of Grentebur'scire,) is the most ancient record to which we can refer in undoubted proof of the fact. Thence we learn, that in 1086 some families had been gathered together, a regular colony with a well-known name established, and every species of possession duly distributed among a body of recognised proprietors.

Another document, indeed, in which Bech is frequently referred to, the Liber Eliensis, might have been quoted, even

¹ Watson's *Hist. of Wisbech*, pp. 17, &c.; Wells' *Hist. of the Bedford Level*, Vol. i. pp. 44, &c., 67, 417, &c.

before Domesday Book, in support of the Saxon origin of the parish. Nevertheless, though Waterbeach unquestionably did exist in Saxon times, it admits of great doubt, whether Landbeach is not there intended. For we meet with the name solely as indicating the residence of persons of considerable importance, and such as, not being tied to a particular locality, would naturally prefer the more elevated and drier ground to the watery soil nearer the bank of the river, and in an especial manner liable to inundations. Besides, the family of De Beche, which, soon after the conquest, began to be one of the conspicuous families of the county, is uniformly asserted to have lived in Landbeach, where they held the manor, subsequently and still called Chamberleyne's, as that family bought it in the beginning of the fourteenth century. They resided, we may presume, in the neighbourhood of the present church, whereabouts are even now evident signs of former habitation, from the manor-house having once stood there. Of a certain distinguished member of this family, Sir Everard de Beche, (who with others witnessed Robert the chamberlain's grant to the monks of Denney in 1166,) an interesting account is given by Leland¹ from the ancient records of Barnwell Abbey, whose high church, very many years ago so completely demolished, that its foundations even are no longer traceable, he was instrumental in erecting.

The parish of Waterbeach in the county of Cambridge was so called even in former times to distinguish it from Landbeach². It lies in the hundred of North Stow, and the deanery of Chesterton, about six miles to the north of Cambridge, and upon the left bank of the river Cam. It is bounded by Milton (originally Middeltune) and Landbeach on the south; by Landbeach and Cottenham on the west, by Stretham on the north, and by Wicken and the Cam on the east.

¹ *Collect.* Vol. II. pp. 437, 438.

² Styled in *Domesday Book* Utbech, outward Bech, or, possibly, Bech out (of the water).

As to the meaning and derivation of the latter portion of the name there is much controversy. Bech or beach is by no means an unusual termination in the fen districts, and that word is often supposed to signify what, in one view of the matter, it necessarily must, not merely beach (of the sea), but bank in general. Thus, then, Waterbeach would imply the village on the bank exposed to inundations, whilst Landbeach would express the village also on the bank, but removed, for the most part, if not entirely, out of the reach of such inundations. This mode of explanation, however, does not to some persons appear satisfactory. They would rather go to a Norse word, Bec, still well known, and commonly used, in the north of England, which means a rivulet, or running water, and make bech or beach stand for a village near a stream, the prefix "land," "water," indicating its position in relation to the overflowings of that stream. In this way, too, they seem to arrive at a definite notion about the early pronunciation of the same word, since, though we now give the final letters ch a soft sound, it could scarcely have been so formerly¹. Our village in Domesday Book is spelt Bece, Bech, and Beche.

The following is the translation of what we read in Domesday Book respecting Waterbeach :—In Bech Osmund holds of Picot [the perpetual sheriff of Cambridgeshire] one hide² and a half and ten acres. The arable land amounts to one carucate and a half. One carucate and a half are in demesne³. There is pasturage for the cattle [of the village]. From the fen land

¹ Watson's *History of Wisbech*, pp. 115, 116.

² In Cambridgeshire the Saxon hide appears to have contained 120 acres; the Norman carucate, perhaps, not quite half. Each was called a ploughland, or as much as one plough could cultivate in a year. The virgate, or yardland, may have consisted of 30 acres, or thereabouts. Ellis' *General Introduction to Domesday Book*, Vol. I. pp. 148, 151, 155.

³ That part of the manor, which the lord retained in his own hands, and which he caused to be cultivated for his own support, the other part being parcelled out among his dependents. Hallam's *Middle Ages*, Vol. I. p. 294, note, edit. 1834.

a thousand eels as [rent], and xij pence as a present. They [the four descriptions of land] are worth xx shillings: when the property was received [from William I. by Picot] xxx shillings¹, and just as much in the days of king Edward [the Confessor]. Blacuin, the [Saxon] sheriff, held iij virgates of this land, and xij acres, and had the power of giving them to whom he wished. And four socmen² of king Edward held iij virgates: they used to find the sheriff in one day's work of the plough, and one day's attendance³.

In beche lived a certain socman, who held one virgate of the soc [territory or jurisdiction] of S. Etheldreda of Ely; and now Walter holds it of Earl Alan⁴: it is worth v shillings.

The above extracts from Domesday Book afford us, as is evident, a very imperfect description of the state of property in Waterbeach towards the end of the eleventh century. For the former goes no farther than to a portion of the parish, about two hundred acres, whilst the latter (taken from that part of the survey entitled *Inquisitio Eliensis*,) only brings before us one small holding, and its different proprietors. Thus much, however, we are enabled to learn, that a manor existed at that time, which, from its extent, and from other circumstances, we cannot doubt to have been the manor of Waterbeach. This

¹ Every species of property fell in value in consequence of the violent occupation of England by William I.

² Inferior landowners: copyholders, but with an interest in the land equal to that of freeholders.

³ Unam averam et j nuewardum. Ellis, *ut supra*, p. 263.

⁴ The youthful Alan Fergant, or Rufus (afterwards Alan III.), heir-presumptive to the earldom of Brittany, commanded the rear of William's army at the battle of Hastings. He subsequently received for his reward, not only 168 hides of land in Cambridgeshire, all the fee there of Eddeva (Editha) pulchra, the sister of Earl Edwyn and wife of Harold, but also the lands in Yorkshire, constituting Richmondshire, which had belonged to Earl Edwyn himself, and with them the title of Earl of Richmond. In 1086 he married Constance, William's daughter. He died in 1120, and was buried in the high church of the abbey of Bury St Edmund's. *Ibid.* Vol. i. p. 366; Vol. ii. pp. 78, &c.

manor is considered under three aspects: First, according to its Saxon measurement: then, as it was portioned out in Norman times, with a few particulars of its value; and lastly, we are informed, who held it previous to the conquest, of whom, as lord, and on what terms. Nor need we feel surprise at Edward the Confessor's name being connected with an institution, which is allowed by our best writers on English antiquities to have been of Norman introduction, because Edward was extremely fond of imitating the Normans, and copied them in regard to manors, which are first noticed in his reign.

The virgate of land held by Walter did not belong to the manor of Waterbeach, neither did it comprise the whole of Earl Alan's acquisitions in the parish. That virgate, together with the four hides and a half and twelve acres, which Domesday Book tells us he had in Bece¹, (taking them for separate properties, as they may well have been,) constituted, assuredly, the manor of Denney, or a considerable portion of it, the manor, namely, which is alluded to, when the Knights Templars are described, early in the thirteenth century, as holding two parts of Waterbeach of the fee of the bishop of Ely. Traces, too, of the same manor of Denney, and of its possession by Earl Alan, are observable in the fact, to be recorded hereafter, which we gain from the Hundred Rolls, that the Knights Templars held land of the Warden of Richmond, who had at first been accustomed to receive an annual rent therefrom.

The Messrs. Lysons, in their account of Waterbeach, quote from the Layer MS². "The manor of Botelers was successively in the families of Boteler, Bohun, and Walwyn: the name is not now known," that is, in 1639, when the lord of the manor of Shepreth there compiled his history of the Cambridgeshire property, it was not. Layer also says "Boteler's manor came to the Bohuns." We elsewhere learn, that 18 Edw. II. [1324] Humfrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, granted the manor

¹ *Registrum Honoris de Richmond, Append.* p. 20.

² Gough's *British Topog.* Vol. i. p. 191.

of Waterbeach to Walwyn. Evidently, in all three cases, the manor of Waterbeach, strictly so called, and not the manor of Denney, with or without Waterbeach, was intended. Nevertheless, using simply the Court Rolls for our guide, it is impossible to make the above statements agree with the unquestionable possession of the same manor, and at the same time, by the abbess of Waterbeach. They can only be reconciled with the latter fact, and such a course we are compelled to adopt, by supposing an error; that Boteler's manor has been put for the Knights Templars' manor, the manor of Waterbeach for the manor of Denney. And this will appear quite manifest, if we take into consideration what Layer likewise affirms, that 9 Edw. II. [1315] the Earl of Hereford and the abbess of Waterbeach were owners of the parish¹. The truth is, on the breaking up of the order of the Knights Templars in 1308, many of the representatives of the original donors, as well as such of the nobility as were sufficiently powerful, seized upon portions of their property, and retained them to their own use. In a similar way the Earl of Hereford must have gained possession of the manor of Denney, which he subsequently parted with to Walwyn in 1324. But in that year an act of parliament having confirmed the pope's bull of 1313, and conferred the Knights Templars' estates upon the Knights Hospitalers, Edward II. obtained from the prior of that order a grant of the same manor, and caused the sheriff of Cambridgeshire to seize upon it in his own name.

The two manors of Waterbeach and Denney were in all respects thoroughly distinct from each other until 1351, when the nuns minoresses of Waterbeach, the possessors of the one manor, were transferred to Denney, and united to those sisters of the same order, on whom the lady Mary de St Paul, the widowed countess of Pembroke, had previously bestowed the other. From this period the manors have never been separated, at all events, in name, though the demesne lands

¹ *Harleian MSS.* No. 6768, p. 35.

belonging to each have, in the course of the last three centuries, been at various times on lease to different individuals, and are now permanently sold off. In the case of the manor of Waterbeach, these demesne lands would seem to have comprised the whole of it.

A duplicate copy of the Court Rolls of the manor of Waterbeach cum Denney is yet in existence¹, and in the possession of the present lord of that manor, the rolls themselves being probably deposited in the Exchequer. This manuscript book carries us back, as regards the Court Baron, to 1327, the first year of Edward III., and reaching, (with some important omissions, however,) down to 6 Carol. I. [1630], contains many curious particulars, not only concerning the manor, but the early circumstances of the parish. Here mention is made of the fee of the Templars 34 Edw. III. [1360], and 13 Edw. IV. [1473]. On the former of these occasions, where the names of the two manors occur together, the manor of Waterbeach is kept perfectly separate from the manor of Denney (feodum Templariorum), and styled feodum de Waterbeech, likewise, feodum Abbæ de Waterbeech: the peculiar custom of each, on every alienation of property, is at the same time briefly recorded. This extract therefrom bears upon the different tenures of land under the manor: 23 Hen. VI. [1445], John Michell of Waterbeech acknowledgeth a tenure by homage and Reliefe of all his Land w^{ch} he houldeth wthin the tythinge [town] of Waterbeech, and that his ancestors have alsoe held the same by Knightes service. Another entry, 24 Edw. III. [1350], has reference to the fenny nature of the parish and its neighbourhood at that period. Richard Crane was admitted to a messuage, &c. to hould to him and his sequela, on condition of his doing a worke every week upon Monday, and errands on the water to Ely, Cantabrigge and St Ives: when he went out, he was to have one loaf with cheese.

¹ The copy, from which Cole made his extracts, and which Masters used, appears to be lost.

The manor of Waterbeach cum Denney, as usual, had various privileges attached to it, as of holding a Court Leet, or View of frank-pledge (mutual assurance), and of regulating the assize of bread and ale. By a charter of 42 Edw. III. [1368] was similarly granted to it the right of free warren in Denney, Waterbeach, and Landbeach¹. It would seem, moreover, to have possessed a gallows for the punishment of felony; since 5 Eliz. [1563] a messuage called Hangman's ground is surrendered into the hands of the queen, as lady of the manor, which messuage possibly occupied the spot, where a gallows once stood.

The manuscript book referred to above equally contains the records of the Court Leet or View of frank-pledge from 1 Hen. VI. [1422] uninterruptedly to 34 Eliz. [1592]. The following entries are taken out of it; two of them shew us, that the jurors sometimes had offences brought to their notice, which we should hardly have thought would in any way have come under their cognisance. 3 Edw. IV. [1464]: Others are presented for beeing of full age [fourteen], and not sworne to the Kinge. 7 Hen. VIII. [1515]: Henricus Jordan a servant is presented for not working, but playing at nighte, and sleeping at dayes. 8 Hen. VIII.: Launcelot Rokeing presented for an Eves dropper: fined xij^d. This court with its twelve jurors continued to be summoned for the election of officers, and the punishment of offences, so late as 1856: it has now at length entirely ceased to exist.

2 Hen. V. [1414]: a post windmill stood in the parish, known as the Windemill of Waterbeech, which John Stunnyn then tooke to farm during the tearme of Five yeares Vnder the yearely rent of Thirty sixe shillings & eight pence. Robert Whae Miller hired the same mill 10 Hen. VI. [1431] for a tearme of Tenne yeares Vnder the yearely rent of Twenty

¹ Landbeach had formerly, as it has now, property de feodo Templariorum de Denney, of which Robert Smyth was admitted into one messuage and five roodes of lande, 13 Edw. IV. [1473].

shillings¹. From the description of it, this may have been for the time the regular mill of the manor, which the owner of that manor provided for the accommodation of the tenants, and at which alone they were permitted to grind their corn. The existence of private mills is likewise noticed. 43 Edw. III. [1369]: Symon Andren died seized of one mill, which he had inherited from his father, and which he left to his son, who was admitted accordingly: so also did John Smith, and John Viccar, in the following year, though these were both seized into the Ladies hands. The two following entries are connected with this subject, and explain it:—22 Edw. III. [1348]: Lorkine King and Henry Waryn refusing to grinde at the mill of the lady are fined viij^d. 32 Edw. III. [1358]: Rob. le Cooke has licence of the lady to hold one mill manuall in his tenement unto his own proper use during his life, so that no other of Waterbeche shall grind without licence of the lady.

There is a small mound almost square, surrounded by a dry moat, near the road going up to Denney Abbey farm. Some persons take it for “Ould Mill hill,” though if it is so, the mill must have been solely for the use of the nuns; others fancy it to be a tumulus; others, again, imagine that it supported a tower, which formed part of the lines of the Knights Templars.

Court Leet or View of frank-pledge—5 Hen. VI. [1427]: Precept to the Ladyes Ministers to make a new buckinge stoole and a Thew in Waterbeech. These instruments of the rough justice of our forefathers were chiefly for the punishment of scolds, and disorderly women. Still the use of them was not confined to female offenders against the peace and well being of society; unprincipled brewers and bakers were equally put into the avenging chair, and soundly ducked in some dirty pool. The Court Rolls shew, that dishonest tradesmen were far from

¹ England was at this time extremely impoverished by taxes levied to support the unsuccessful war with France, which will explain the greatly reduced rent.

uncommon. No entries occur more frequently than complaints, not only against the regrators (retailers) of bread and ale, but even against the appointed ale-tasters themselves.

Two principal causeways formerly existed, one leading from the village to the ferry over the river at Clayhithe, as at present, called Dele Causey, the other by the vicarage allotment field, (on the west side of the ditch called Sprewer's ditch,) and Denney, unto Chittering, and thence on to Stretham. A well-known farm was named Causeway-end farm, from being situated at the termination of the second causeway. Money was often left for the reparation and maintenance of these causeways. Sometimes the aid of religion was expressly called in to assist in providing the requisite funds. For in the year 1400 John Fordham, bishop of Ely, granted an indulgence of forty days to those, who should contribute to the support of William Roger, a poor hermit; and to the keeping up of the causeways between Waterbeach and Denney, and between Denney and Stretham. This hermit could hardly be the William Roger of Cambridge, who, 3 Edw. IV. [1464], surrendered one acre and one roode of meadowe in Holough.

We had a good many fisheries in Waterbeach, the letting of which is of constant occurrence in the Court Rolls. Licences for fowling, too, are very numerous, and on one occasion we learn, what kinds of birds were accustomed to frequent the parish several centuries ago. At a Court Leet or View of frank-pledge held 14 Hen. VIII. [1522], it was ordered, that none take any foule, vzt. cranes, butters [butores, bitterns], busterdes, and herneshawes, within the Commons, and sell the same out of the Lopp¹, unless hee first offer them to the Lorde² of the mannor to buy, sub pena xx^d. Then, again,

¹ Parish? The word first appears a few years earlier, 8 Hen. VIII. [1516]. That Launcelot Roking amove himselfe from the Towne and Lopp before Michelmas, sub pena xx^d.

² The demesne lands with the manor had recently been leased out by Elizabeth Throckmorton, the lady abbess of Denney, and the sisters, to Rich. Sageborowe.

licences for hunting, and presentations of men, who presumed to hunt without licence, are not uncommon. The hunting, we may imagine, was what is now more accurately termed coursing, 'the hunting of the hare,' though Bewick¹ states, that it was not unusual to hunt the great bustard, when young, with greyhounds. They therefore, if discovered on the upland common, which, from the abundance of them in the higher grounds of this part of Cambridgeshire down to a very recent period, must often have been the case, may also have been included amongst the objects of sport.

11 Eliz. [1569]: The Farm^{es} of Waterbeech to maynteyne a Pound. 12 Eliz.: Waterbeech is appoynted to maynteyne a payre of Stockes. They were both placed on the green. The remains of the pound (which the owner of the manor invariably repaired) have just been removed: the stocks have been gone these thirty years. A pound existed in the parish before 1569. For 1 Hen. VI. [1422]: John Colebyle was presented for Pounds breach; and others were fined in 1520 for the same offence. The keeper of the pound, or pinder, an officer but recently abolished, was from early times designated the hayward, through some connexion he had with hay and its guardianship. 12 Hen. VIII. [1520]: John Richardson presented for a trespasse upon the hayward in doing his office: fined xx^d.

The next great fact in the history of Waterbeach is the drainage of the fens, which cannot be entirely passed over, though it must be touched upon but very briefly indeed. By Hayward's survey, taken 1635-6, the fen land (and the whole of the low land was not so,) amounted to 3374 acres. Of this land Francis, Earl of Bedford, and his brother adventurers in draining, were entitled to one-third, according to the terms of the law of Sewers, called the Lynn law, of 1630-31. So large a tract of land was allotted to them, to reimburse them for their expences in rendering the remainder, as well as they

¹ *History of Birds*, Vol. I. p. 369.

could, summer lands; which they endeavoured to do by embanking, cutting drains, erecting mills for throwing off the water, &c. Our parish with many others experienced the benefit of their labours after improvement. Waterbeach, therefore, from the first part of the seventeenth century, belonged to the Great Level of the fens, and to that division called the South Level.

The seventeenth century, how eventful soever in a public point of view, passed over this village very lightly. Waterbeach is not entered in Dowsing's journal, consequently we may conclude, that from the then smallness and insignificance of the living, it escaped his visitation. Likewise, though among the sequestrations of 1644, we have a full description of the ministers of the neighbouring parishes, no report is made respecting our own incumbent¹. Thus the Rev. William Sayer, the vicar at that time, continued undisturbed, and carried on his ministrations for the long space of forty years, from about 1638 to his death in 1678. The only way in which the changes in the government of the country influenced us, was as to the registrar of births, marriages, and deaths, whose appointment the act of 1653 rendered imperative. Nevertheless he, as we shall soon learn, grossly neglected his duty.

But if the seventeenth century had little to do publicly with the retired village of Waterbeach, it was at all events an age of charity there. Previously the poor had not been forgotten, imperfect as are our accounts of the piety of that earlier race. With the names and intentions of the later benefactors, on the contrary, we are acquainted. In due order those names and intentions will be recorded, when it will be perceived, that even in more modern times there was no deficiency of benevolent individuals among us, who were willing to dedicate some portion of the goods they possessed to the advantage and improvement of their fellow parishioners.

The Bedford Level Corporation were accustomed to let out,

¹ Baker's *MSS.* Vol. XLII. pp. 243, &c.

from time to time, as severals, the land¹, which they owned in Waterbeach fen, to such persons, as desired to become adventurers in fen farming². The undertaking was rather a hazardous one, the land being liable to be drowned by breaches of banks from immoderate rains. To remedy this inconvenience as much as possible, an Act of Parliament³ was obtained in 1740 for making the fen lands and low grounds of Waterbeach, and some adjoining lands in the parishes of Wicken, Stretham, and Thetford, containing in the whole 4500 acres, into a Level by themselves, called Waterbeach Level, subordinate to that of the Bedford Corporation. The same Act appointed commissioners for the more particular care and inspection of the lands, of whom the lord of the manor of Waterbeach cum Denney, and the vicar of Waterbeach for the time being, were always to be two, the lord of the manor of Stretham, and the rector thereof, being also two of the others. These commissioners were empowered to levy a tax, and to lay out the sum raised by it, as they should judge most beneficial to the Level. But all their care and attention could not prevent occasional inundations; and indeed, if they could have done this, the nature of the soil was such, observes Mr Masters, that the lands would have been of little value, they being greatly enriched by these floods, and bearing the more plentiful crops on again becoming dry.

The Rev. William Cole, the well-known antiquary, lived at the vicarage of Waterbeach, as curate to Mr Masters, from the end of 1767 to the beginning of 1770, in consequence of

¹ They could scarcely in this instance have received their due proportion, since Wells (*History of the Bedford Level*, Vol. II. pp. 232, 705, 756) only accounts for the sale of 814 acres. Within the last sixty years the land has passed into the hands of different private individuals, North fen, which contains 658 acres, now belonging entirely to the Earl of Hardwicke.

² In 1794 the number of acres in the fen under casual cultivation was stated at 500, and the rent at six shillings an acre.

³ Throughout this Act the river is properly styled the Grant.

possessing an estate in the neighbourhood: his salary was twenty guineas a year. He was an intimate friend of Horace Walpole, afterwards Earl of Orford, and of the poet Gray, of whom the latter visited him here frequently. Cole's letters to the former, written either from this village, or from Milton, (where he subsequently took up his permanent abode, and died in 1782,) enable us to glean a few facts descriptive of Waterbeach in his time, and likewise of the inconveniences to which fen property was then subjected. The village he calls 'a true fen town;' and adds, 'I longed after a hermitage, and I believe I have found the very spot, where it was designed to be built. But I could have liked to have been placed, where were fewer religious brawls than in this parish, where above half the people assemble in a barn, being the disciples of one Berridge¹. This man, though now in a college living, yet keeps up a party all over this country, and alternately preaches methodism among them.' As regards the fens, Cole writes in 1769, 'a great part of my estate has been drowned these two years; all this part of the country is now covered with water, and the poor people of this parish utterly ruined.' The following year he again writes, 'this is the third time within six years that my estate has been drowned, and now worse than ever².' Well then might Cole excuse his removal to a higher and drier situation at Milton by the expression, 'not being a water-rat, I left Waterbeach.'

It is right to relieve the foregoing account of our village by one of a totally different character, which, though written by a self-taught inhabitant of Waterbeach at the beginning of 1820, is intended to refer to about the same period³. It may be thought worth preserving even as a record of times gone by:

¹ Berridge was a fellow of Clare College, and had been presented to the vicarage of Everton in 1755. He was an intimate friend of John Wesley. Simeon records an introduction to him in 1782. Whittingham's *Life of Berridge*, pp. 9, 45, &c.; Carus' *Life of Simeon*, p. 24.

² Warburton's *Life of Horace Walpole*, Vol. II. pp. 371, 375, 377.

³ John Denson's *Peasant's Voice to Landowners*, pp. 17, 18.

‘ Our May-day (as it principally terminated our sports for the year) was our grandest holiday; preparatory to its celebration, the young women collected materials to form a garland; they consisted of ribands, flowers, silver spoons, with a silver tankard to suspend in the centre; which, with the spoons, constituted the greater portion of the plate of our parish. Our young men, early in the morning, or rather late at night, went into the fields to collect the emblems of their esteem and disapprobation: then woe betide the girl of loose habits, the slattern and the scold: for while the young woman who had been foremost in the dance, and whose amiable manners entitled her to our esteem, had a large branch or tree of whitethorn planted by her cottage-door; the girl of loose manners had a blackthorn planted at her’s; the slattern had an elder-tree planted at her’s; and the scold a bunch of nettles tied to the latch of her cottage-door. The young men then went for the garland, and suspended it by a rope in the centre of the street between two opposite chimneys; this was always done before the rising of the sun; the morning was then ushered in by the ringing of the village-bells. We then attended to our domestic concerns till the after part of the day; our sports then began; they consisted of dancing, playing at ball, and every kind of sport we could devise, in which both old and young participated; and those, whom age and infirmity prevented, appeared to enjoy our sports, as they sat at their cottage-doors.’

Of the land in Waterbeach the commons occupied 1852 acres. There were 500 acres of upland common by Winfold, Chit-tering hill, &c. and 1352 acres of fen or moor common. About 500 acres of these commons were, in 1794, out of the reach even of the winter-floods. The rights of common¹ amounted to 119½, the owners whereof could each of them feed on the commons fifteen head of great cattle, viz. milch cows, horses, mares, colts, heifers, &c., with eight sheep, as limited by the

¹ At the inclosure from 8 to 20 acres of fen-land were allotted to each owner of a common right.

Act of 1740, and supply what might be wanting of his own stock to make up that number by taking in foreign stock to agist. A subsequent Act in 1790 reduced the number from fifteen to twelve head of great cattle. It also enacted, in order to assist the vicar in the collection of his dues, that, after each annual drift, an account of the number of cattle found on the commons should be given by the fen-reeves, (anciently called 'provosts of the marsh,') within ten days to the incumbent of Waterbeach.

In former years the rule for stocking the commons was very different, and besides, gives evidence of an extremely imperfect state of agriculture. 8 Edw. III. [1334]: It is agreed by the homage that noe Freehoulder wth in the manno^e ought to have comon for [more] cattle then he cann keepe in the winter, and therevpon they present John Pilat¹ for surcharginge the comon contrary to the custome of the said manno^e. This notice was often repeated in after years.

Moreover, the commoners were every year, at stated times, particularly on havock day, July 15th, allowed to mow some parts of their commons, to furnish them with lugs² (flags), which made a coarse kind of hay for foddering their cattle in the winter, when there was any deficiency of a better sort from their severals, and inclosures. Each commoner had also the right to dig in Joist fen as many turves as might be wanted for the fuel of his own houshold; he could not, however, sell any out of the parish.

¹ Masters (*History of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge*, p. 33, note b, *Append.* p. 5) mentions John Pilet, as joining with others in making over to St Mary's Gild, 18 Edw. III. [1344], several messuages and cottages. The family resided, apparently, at Cambridge, was of great respectability, and had lived in these parts for a long time. Walter Pilat was one of the witnesses to Robert the chamberlain's deed of gift to the monks of Denney in 1166. 6 Jac. I. [1608] a fen in the parish was called Pylat's fen.

² A part of Milton near the Cam is styled Lug fen, from the quantity of flags which grow there.

The soil of the uplands is very rich and fertile, varying from a black mould upon gravel to a deep brown loam upon clay. The quantity of arable land before the inclosure was 600 acres, and of pasture 800 acres, or thereabouts. The former was so plentifully supplied with manure from the numerous cattle kept by the occupiers and proprietors of the rights of common upon the lowlands, (generally reckoned good grazing ground,) that the yield was seldom less than four or five quarters per acre, and frequently more. Both descriptions of land were worth at least one pound per acre, one acre with another, though small parcels of it were often let out at much higher rates.

The three flocks of sheep at that time usually depastured in Waterbeach, the Denney flock, the tithe flock, and the town flock, or the flock made up of the sheep belonging to the several possessors of common rights, amounted to about 1000, 'superior to the common Cambridgeshire:' these, from the excellence of the soil, being generally well kept, became very profitable to their owners. The soil, likewise, was peculiarly adapted for gardening, insomuch that no better asparagus, cauliflowers, cabbages, beans, and peas, could be produced, than were raised therefrom, and many persons diligently cultivating them, and carrying them to Cambridge market, contrived to acquire a comfortable maintenance.

Since the Messrs Hemington, father and son, the farmers of the Denney Abbey estate, and Mr Mason, the farmer of the impropriate rectory, occupied nearly two-thirds of the parish, or nearly two-thirds of all the land regularly cultivated, not many other farmers of the better class resided in Waterbeach. Causeway-end farm, with those of Messrs Wiles, Hall, Huckings, and Watson, were the principal farms. The remainder of the land was divided into lots of a few acres each for the benefit of such persons as owned a stock of milch cows, of which there were usually at least 350, and sometimes even as many as 600, kept 'for the purpose of making cheese, which was here brought to

very great perfection,' as well as for the supply of Cambridge market with butter, at which place it was accustomed to bear, as it does now, a good price. Others kept a cow or two for the support of their families; but many were obliged to subsist entirely by their labour, and they, who were past work, to be maintained by a rate upon the richer inhabitants, either at their own homes, or in a workhouse provided for that purpose at the east end of the green.

In pursuance of an Act of Parliament passed 21st May, 1813, Waterbeach was inclosed. From that period, therefore, the commons and low grounds, instead of being any longer kept exclusively for grazing, and stocked with cattle, began to be brought into profitable cultivation, and by the aid of steam drainage are now enabled annually to bring forth a fair quantity of almost all kinds of agricultural produce. In 1857, no doubt, a very favourable year, wheat is said to have averaged five quarters an acre even on the fen lands. We have still much garden ground in the parish, where fruit and vegetables are grown for the London and Cambridge markets. Cows, too, are kept by several of the inhabitants, so that, though cheese has ceased to be made, not only the Cambridge market is duly supplied with butter, but one hundred gallons of milk are sent daily, Sundays included, by railway to London.

The Eastern Counties line of railway to Norwich runs for five miles through the parish, that is, runs completely through it, from south to north, and has here a station conveniently situated for the inhabitants of the village.

There is an ancient ferry over the river Cam, with an extensive fishery belonging to it, at Clayhithe, otherwise called, in former times, Bechewere. This invariably went with the Denney Abbey estate until sold off by itself in 1855 by Lady Beresford, the then owner of that estate.

Waterbeach feast used to begin on the second Sunday in July. Its beginning on that day being found to interfere very much with the hay harvest, the day was changed, about eighty

years ago, by the influence of Mr Hemington senior, to the last Sunday in May, and subsequently, by others, to the last Monday in that month, the present arrangement. The feast continues three or four days. On Shrove-Tuesday another village holiday occurs, but of an inferior kind, called little Beach-feast.

That pleasant feature of village scenery, the green, on which the booths for the May feast are erected, and where the customary smithy stands, once well deserved to be called a green. On the contrary, of late years, it has been so worn in almost every direction by traffic, that it has hardly the least title to its original name. An entry like the following is scarcely any longer possible to be made in the Court Rolls. 7 Hen. VI. [1428]: Others are presented for trespassing with hogges on Beech greene. The mention of 'hogges' will justify a reference, though quite irrelevant, to one incident of ancient rustic life. 16 Hen. VIII. [1525]: That none keep hogges unless they have a sty, and that they keep upp their swyne after the Swyneherd comes home, and doe not permitt them to go abroad till hee blowe his horne, sub p. iiij^d.

The houses in Waterbeach are to some extent new, and of white brick, which takes off very much from its village appearance, though it adds considerably to its security. This has arisen from the numerous incendiary fires, by which it was laid waste a few years back. Previously many of the cottages were built of oblong clay clumps made in a wooden frame, and thatched with straw, a few of which kind still remain. The Court Rolls afford us little information respecting the old village of Waterbeach: nevertheless they do tell us of John Belte, who, 36 Edw. III. [1362], had a grant of a chamber in le Newerowe wth a bakeside adioyninge; and 15 Eliz. [1573], of a Toft called Warren's, situate in Panstreete.

In 1782 there were 101 families in the parish, and 457 inhabitants. The number of houses, so also of inhabitants, as a necessary consequence of the inclosure, has largely increased

of late years, from labourers having ever since been in much greater demand than before. At the last taking of the census, in 1851, the parish contained 1440 persons, more than three times as many as it contained in 1782. This fact admits of an easy explanation. For, whilst before the inclosure, to quote from the award, which is dated 28th September, 1818, the common and open fields, jugs [jugera,] common meadows, common pastures, commons, open marsh-grounds, open fen-grounds, and other open and commonable waste grounds, were found by admeasurement to comprise, exclusive of North fen, 3374 acres, the home closes, yards, gardens, orchards, old inclosures, and lands and grounds, namely, all the land which was not common or fen, and was consequently under systematic cultivation of some kind, amounted only to 1490 acres. Thus, since those 3374 acres then began to require labourers, and our parish could not supply them, men from other parishes flocked in with their families in order to make up the deficiency.

The individuals, whose names are met with on the Court Rolls, as holders of land under the manor of Waterbeach cum Denney, may well be considered to have been inhabitants of this parish, except where the contrary is expressly noticed. From 1327 to 1377 we find John Frost, John Houlett, Andrew Kinge, Adam Jeckes, Roger le Mason, Edward Miller, Robert le Cooke, Allen Smith, Robert Taylour, Agnes Waryn, Agnes de Wotton, Henry Warde, Walter Allyn, John Whitehood [Whitehead], and Symon Andrewe. From 1413 to 1483, Robert Toller, John Apleby, John Campes, John Clay, Robert Cooper, John Webb, John Dey, William Firmant, William Barker, Thomas Vyell [Veal], Robert Browne, Agnes Hynton, and Robert Whae [Wye]. From 1509 to 1603, John Burges, Thomas Brooke, William Fuller, William Gray, Nicholas Gilson, Hugh fitz Harbar, Thomas Heckes, William Pickard, Richard Wallys, John Lyne, and Richard Willson. From 1603 to 1631 Symon Bytten, Grace Jervase,

John Wyles, John Knight, John Levet, Thomas Pratt, and William Rooke.

Richard Jugge, the very eminent printer in Paules church-yard at the sygne of the Byble, whose name, often joined as queen's printer to that of John Cawode, is connected with the early editions of our English Bibles, and Prayer Books, and with a variety of other publications, is supposed to have been a native of Waterbeach. He was elected from Eton to King's College in 1531, though he left the University without taking a degree¹. It must, therefore, be his father, who is mentioned in the Court Rolls. 6 Hen. VIII. [1514]: John Browne Brens surrendreth one osyer holt, one fodderfen in Chiteringe and halfe an acre of meadowe in Rushholough with common of xxx. foote of Turffe to the use of Rich. Jugge.

Just 2036 acres of land are copyhold, and held of the manor of Waterbeach cum Denney. But this manor is now a union of two in name, rather than in reality, inasmuch as for a long time, perhaps, from 1533, when its site and demesnes were let out by the abbess and convent of Denney, if not earlier, nothing copyhold has been actually held of the manor of Waterbeach. The freehold land reaches to 2824½ acres, without including North fen. Therefore, if to the copyhold and freehold land we add 92½ acres taken up in public and private roads, drains, haling ways, and town streets, 658 acres, also freehold, for the North fen, which the inclosure act of 1813 did not touch, with 2 acres in Cambridge-way-field, belonging to the surveyors of the highways, these several quantities will give 5613 for the total number of acres in the parish. The 50 acres, or a little more, occupied by the railroad are not to be added, because they came out of the copyhold and freehold land before enumerated.

The landed property is assessed at £10357.14s. When cer-

¹ Messrs. Cooper's *Athen. Cantab.* p. 383; Clay's *Liturgical Services of Queen Elizabeth*, pref. p. xii.; Parker's *Correspondence*, pp. 281, 337.

tain subsidies were granted by parliament to the king, 14 Edw. III. [1340], for two years, namely, the ninth lamb, the ninth fleece, and the ninth sheaf, the sum of xix^{li}. xiiij^s. iiij^d. was required from Waterbeach¹, though, claiming a deduction to the amount of ix^{li}. v^s. iiij^d, the inhabitants were allowed only to pay x^{li}. viii^s.

THE CHURCH.

WE discover nothing about the history of the church until we find Geoffrey Ridel, who became bishop of Ely in 1174, giving over, not only Beche, but Caldecotte (the cold dwelling), with all their appurtenances, or, what is really meant, giving over the tithes of those parishes, except so much as was wanted for the vicars, to the prior and canons regular of Barnwell² towards procuring them support and maintenance. His grant, from negligence or injustice, clearly did not take effect. Hence William de Longcamp, who succeeded Ridel in 1189, soon after his consecration, and at the earnest request of Robert, prior of Barnwell, as if nothing had been done in the business before, made a second grant to that monastery, (*salvis idoneis sustentationibus vicariorum in eis celebrantium*), of the same two churches, adding thereto the church of St Giles in Cambridge; and expressly appointed the grant to be carried out upon the death or resignation of the existing rector, Bartholomew. Bartholomew served both livings; his resignation of them formally took place, as well as the admission of the new patrons into their fresh acquisitions, at Cambridge, on the day of St Hilary (13th January) 1197, 8. Eustachius was raised to the bishopric of Ely in the following August, whereupon he confirmed this act of his predecessor³.

But, previous to the regular appropriation of the living, the

¹ *Inquisit. Nonar.* p. 204.

² *Fontes puerorum*: the bairns' fountains, or well. Leland's *Collect.* Vol. II. p. 434.

³ Baker's *MSS.* Vol. XXVIII. pp. 34, 35.

monastery at Barnwell had already obtained a portion of the tithes of Waterbeach. Picot¹, a Norman, who came over into England in 1066, who, from the office he held in perpetuity in this county, is usually styled simply the sheriff (vicecomes), and who, by reason of the greatness of his possessions, is said to have ranked as an Earl among the nobility of the kingdom, to whom William had likewise assigned, in return for his services, the barony of Brunna or Bourne, on which he usually resided, had built at Cambridge in 1092, in consequence of his wife Hugolina's recovery from a dangerous illness, 'a small Oratory of Wood' in honour of St Giles, whom she always looked upon as her peculiar patron. Moreover, he had joined to that oratory an establishment of six canons regular, of the order of St Austin, or black canons, having first consulted Anselm, archbishop of Canterbury, and Remigius, bishop of Lincoln², in whose diocese Cambridgeshire then still continued to be. Picot afterwards transferred to his canons the advowson of certain churches, which he possessed; and also two parts of the tithes de omnibus dominiis omnium militum meorum in Cantebridgeshire, scilicet, de Waterbeche, &c.: namely, two-thirds of the tithes arising from all the land held by his knights in demesne of the barony of Brunna, in the several villages of the county, where it had land³; and among those villages was Waterbeach. The land, from which the tithes were to come, Domesday Book informs us⁴, consisted in the present instance of about a hundred

¹ See *Lib. Eliens.* Lib. II. cap. 131, for his character, as drawn by Thomas, a monk of Ely. Picot was a witness to the charter of William I. confirming the privileges and customary rights of that monastery. Bentham and Stevenson's *Hist. of Ely Cathedral*, Vol. I. Append. p. 10.

² Remigius died 9th May, 1092, and may easily have been consulted; but there exists some difficulty, if the date of the foundation is correct, with respect to Anselm, who was not consecrated until 4th December, 1093.

³ Domesday Book says, that Picot had sixty-four hides of land in his own possession, and eighty-seven held under him.

⁴ See p. 7.

acres. Remigius similarly authorized this arrangement. In 1112, after the little canonry of St Giles had been transferred to Barnwell, dedicated to St Giles and St Andrew, raised from its impoverished state, and greatly enlarged, another grant of the same tithes was made to that establishment by Pain [Paganus] de Peverell. Pain de Peverell was a valiant and famous crusader, uterine brother to William de Peverell, natural son of William I., the first Peverell of the Peak¹. To him, as the nearest relation and heir, Henry I. had given the barony of Brunna, confiscated through the treason and flight of his cousin Robert, son of Picot and Hugolina. This second donation was sanctioned by Harvey, first bishop of Ely, and diocesan².

The rectory of Waterbeach having been vacated by Bartholomew in the beginning of 1198, a vicarage was instituted agreeably to the appointment of William de Longcamp; which vicarage, being in the gift of the prior and convent of Barnwell, was generally bestowed upon one of their own canons. In the course of time a dispute arose concerning the advowson of the vicarage, so that 7 Edw. I. [1279] the Knights Templars, who had then had for about a century a preceptory at Denney, maintained a contest in the King's Bench about it, asserting that some of their predecessors had presented thereto. But they did not succeed in their object, the right of presentation being fully confirmed to the priory of Barnwell. Mr Masters³ implies, that 'there were two claimants to the advowson' as early as the reign of Richard I., but that the matter was not regularly brought to a judicial decision until now. Conse-

¹ Dugdale's *Baronage*, Tom. i. p. 438. He was one of the witnesses to some deeds connected with the formation of the bishopric of Ely. Bentham and Stevenson's *Hist. of Ely Cathedral*, Vol. i. Append. pp. 17, 21.

² *Hist. and Antiq. of Barnwell Abbey*, pp. 9, &c.; Leland's *Collect.* Vol. ii. pp. 433, &c.

³ *Short Account of the Parish of Waterbeach*, p. 24.

quently the priors and convent of Barnwell had continued to present, notwithstanding this adverse claim, and the bishops of Ely had uniformly admitted their nominee. When that religious establishment was surrendered to Hen. VIII., 8th November, 1538, the patronage of the vicarage fell with it to the crown, wherefore in 1553 queen Mary presented.

In 1559 an Act of Parliament was passed [1 Eliz. cap. 19], authorizing Queen Elizabeth, upon the avoidance of any archbishopric or bishopric, to take into her hands certain of the temporal possessions thereof, recompensing the same with parsonages [rectories] impropriate, and tithes¹. By virtue of this Act Queen Elizabeth, who, on appointing to the see of Ely, had not let the episcopal estates go out of her power, in or about the third year of her reign transferred to Bishop Coxe the impropriate rectory, and the advowson of the vicarage, of Waterbeach, with several other impropriate rectories, and the tenths of the diocese, whilst she retained for herself the more valuable manors². Thus the see of Ely regained a piece of preferment, which for almost four centuries had been lost to it, though, on a vacancy in 1564, James Boultonne, the farmer of the rectory under the bishop, was allowed to present. The right of presentation for that turn had, we may presume, from some cause or other, been made over to him; a not unusual thing in former days³. Bishop Coxe's register styles Boultonne both *discretus vir*, and *generosus*. However, when Queen Elizabeth is affirmed to have transferred to the bishops of Ely the impropriate rectory of Waterbeach, no more must be understood, than that she gave up to them the reserved rent of the rectory, and the power in due season to lease the rectory afresh, since the beneficial possession of the tithes had for some years been in the hands of

¹ Gibson's *Codex*, Tom. II. p. 676.

² See a curious document relating to this subject, reprinted by Bentham and Stevenson. *Hist. of Ely Cathedral*, Vol. I. *Append.* pp. 37, 38.

³ Masters' *Hist. of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge*, pp. 53, 64, 104, 358.

others. 20th May, 26 Hen. VIII. [1534]: Nicholas Smythe, prior of Barnwelle and the convent, demysed and lett unto Nicholas Wylcokks of Barnwelle yoman ther personage of Waterbech, together with the Tythes of all maner Greynes, Haye, Thakke, and foder, &c. for thirty years from the Fest of thannuncyacion of our blessed Lady next commyng, at the yerely rent of twenty marks¹. This lease was executed only six months before Nicholas Smythe was obliged to resign his office, (a pension of twenty pounds being assigned him,) the royal letters directed to Goodrich, recently appointed bishop of Ely, to confirm the election of John Badcocke², his successor, being dated 24th November in the same year. John Badcocke also leased the same rectory and parsonage, 20th June, 28 Hen. VIII. [1536], to George Carleton³ of London, gentleman, for seventy years, to begin from the end and determination of the terme of yeares before graunted. Both the above leases, made so short a time previous to the dissolution of their house, display a firm resolution not lightly to abandon all hold on the conventual property.

¹ £13. 6s. 8d. The estimated annual value of the rectory according to the papal taxation of 1291; and the present reserved rent paid to the bishop of Ely.

² Badcocke, after he had resigned the office of prior, farmed the monastery lands and tithes in Cambridge, where he resided. At the time of his death in 1562 he was incumbent of the parish of Barnwell, and rector of Upwell in Norfolk, to which last he had been presented in 1539. Messrs. Cooper's *Athen. Cantab.* pp. 219, 553.

³ To him was granted, 36 Hen. VIII. [1544], the Austin Priory of Spinney in the parish of Wicken, Cambridgeshire, (which, having gone to decay, had, in 1449, been perpetually united to the monastery of Ely, where the founders lay buried, by Walter, bishop of Norwich, ordinary of the place,) as parcel of the possessions of Ely, in trust, apparently, for Sir Edward North. North, one of the executors of Henry the Eighth, who left him a legacy of £300, created Baron North of Kirtling in 1554, and ancestor of the present Earl of Guilford, obtained large grants of ecclesiastical property in this county. Tanner's *Notit. Monast.* Messrs. Cooper's *Athen. Cantab.* p. 232.

19th November 2 Eliz. [1559] George Carleton of Sutton Valence in Kent, Esq., one of the administrators of George Carleton, his late father, and Edward Carleton of Gray's Inn, gentleman, assigned the lease over to James Bowlton of Cherterton, husbandman, for the sum of forty pounds; and he to Robert Sysson of St Ives, yeoman, 12th June, 15 Eliz. [1573], for two hundred and eighty pounds; who, 18th April, 20 Eliz. [1578], conveyed it for four hundred pounds to Thomas Mowffett, citizen and girdler of London. Thomas Mowffett within three days underleased the parsonage of Waterbeach to Oliver Grene of Cambridge¹, innholder, for twenty-one years, he paying the reserved rent of twenty marks to the bishop of Ely, and thirty pounds yearly to himself, at the sign of the guilte Cocke in West Cheape, clear of all deductions. 7th June, 34 Eliz. [1592], William Moffett of Chipping Barnet, gentleman, one of the executors of Thomas Moffett, deceased, and Peter Moffett of the same place, clerk, his brother, agreed to give up the lease to Daniel Odam, of Cambridge, gentleman, in consideration of a competent sum of money to be first paid. Oliver Grene continued tenant under Odam, and paid the reserved rent to the bishop of Ely at Michaelmas, 36 Eliz. [1594]; but the next year John Yaxley, who had, probably, in the meanwhile purchased the lease from Odam, was the payer of it.

11th October, 1639, Wren, bishop of Ely, (the two conventional leases having by this time run out,) granted a lease of the rectory for twenty-one years in favour of Robert Nelson, Esq., a connexion of John Yaxley, whose trustee he was, and whose own lease he may have carried on. 1647, Surveyors appointed by the trustees of bishops' lands certify, that the rectory of Waterbeach was then worth £13. 6s. 8d. per annum, the amount of the reserved rent, and that its future value, [when the lease should have expired,] was above £76. 13s. 4d. per annum². The rectory itself so valued John Robson,

¹ Mayor in 1594.

² *Collect. Topog. et Geneal.* Vol. III. p. 45.

Yaxley's son-in-law, bought 27th September, 1651, for £132. 9s. 4*d.* of the above trustees, who made it over to him, his heirs, and assigns, for ever, for his only use and behoof. However, notwithstanding such purchase, on the termination of Nelson's lease, Wren, who had at length been reinstated in his diocese, again leased out the rectory; but this time to Wicksted Weld¹, gentleman. This proceeding gave occasion to an expensive lawsuit in defence of their imaginary rights, which was injurious to the Robson family, and caused them, in 1701, to part with the lease of the rectory, the only thing Robson had succeeded in securing, as well as with other property, to Josiah Bacon, Esq., merchant, of London. The lease, having passed through the families of Bacon and Standly, is now, by an immediate grant from the bishop of Ely, in the possession of Edward Mason, Esq. of the Hall farm.

The allotment of freehold land awarded at the inclosure in lieu of the rectorial tithes, and 61½ acres of glebe, was 332a. 3r. 16p.

The vicarage of Waterbeach was set at seven marks a year in 1291². In 1402, John Bernwell, prior of Barnwell, returned it to Bishop Fordham of Ely, as of the annual value of ten marks. In the King's Books it is estimated at £5. 15s. 7½*d.* The Parliamentary survey of 1649 puts it down at thirty pounds per annum. In 1707 its yearly income was reckoned something under forty pounds. When Mr Masters took it in 1759, he found the tithes let for fifty-eight pounds a year. In consequence of his successful lawsuit with Peter Standly, Esq., which was decided 23rd February, 1763, the income of the living was trebled; but only in dry years, the fen lands being not yet perfectly drained. Mr William Masters, son of the former, as soon as he came to the living, agreed to

¹ He was born at Cambridge, and had been educated at Corpus Christi College. See Masters' *History*, p. 412.

² *Taxat. Ecclesiast.* P. Nicolai, p. 266.

take fifty guineas a year for the recovered tithes of corn and hay; whilst the whole average for three years, beginning with 1789, was one hundred and forty pounds.

Shortly after the collation of Mr Masters senior to the living, he fortunately discovered, he says, that his predecessors had, for many years past, been defrauded of a considerable portion of corn and hay tithes, with which the vicarage had been augmented by Wren, bishop of Ely, 14th December, 1660. The augmentation consisted both of the great tithes arising from all the land occupied by the adventurers in fen farming, called the Adventurers' Ground, in North fen, and of a third part of the rectorial tithes of the lands at that time commonly called the Denney Abbey estate. The vicar had regularly received the former, but not the latter. These tithes, therefore, Mr Masters, acting on the advice of able and friendly lawyers, set himself to recover, by filing a bill in the exchequer against 'a very rich and potent adversary,' Peter Standly, Esq. 'By indefatigable application, and at no small hazard,' he happily succeeded in his object, obtaining a favourable decree, together with arrears¹ from the date of his incumbency, and costs of suit. For the barons of the exchequer declared the vicars of Waterbeach entitled to a third part of the tithes and profits of the demesnes, pasture, and arable lands, belonging to the manors of Denney and Waterbeach, and which were anciently belonging to the dissolved house of nuns, called Denney Abbey.

Connected with Bishop Wren's augmentation of the vicarage, and with Mr Masters' subsequent contest about it, is this anecdote, which cannot well be either omitted or abridged:— 'His lordship [Lord Keeper Guilford] had a relation, one Mr Whitmore, of Balms near London, a humoursome old gentle-

¹ These arrears of corn and hay tithes were appraised by regular valuers at £457 10s. 10d. for the five years from 1759 to 1764 inclusive. A composition of £210 was agreed to be accepted by Mr Masters.

man, but very famous for the mere eating and drinking part of housekeeping. He was owner of Waterbeach [Denney] near Cambridge, and took a fancy that his estate ought not to pay tithes, and ordered his tenants expressly to pay none, with promise to defend them. The parson had no more to do but to go to law, and by advice brought an action of debt for treble damages, upon the statute against subtraction of tithes. The tenants got the whole demand to be put in one action; and that stood for trial¹ at the [Cambridge] assizes. Then he consults his cousin North, and retains him to defend his cause, but shews him no manner of title to a discharge. So he could but tell him he would be routed, and pay treble value of the tithes, and that he must make an end². This signified nothing to one, that was abandoned to his own testy humour. The cause came on, and his lordship's utmost endeavour was to fetch him off with the single value and costs; and that point he managed very artificially. For first, he considered that Archer was the judge, and it was always agreeable to him to stave off a long cause. After the cause was opened, his lordship for the defendant stepped forwards, and told the judge, that this would be a long and intricate cause, being a title to a discharge of tithes, which would require the reading a long series of records and ancient writings. That his client was no quaker, to deny payment of tithes, where due, in which case the treble value was by the law intended, as a sort of penalty. But this was to be a trial of a title, which his client was advised he had to a discharge; therefore he moved, that the single value might be settled, and, if the cause went for the plaintiff, he should have that and his costs, (which costs, it seems, did not go, if the treble value was recovered), and then they would proceed to their title. The other side mutinied against this imposition of

¹ The exact date of the trial does not appear: it must have been somewhere about 1670.

² Mr Masters' lawsuit with Mr Standly is the best possible proof, that Mr Whitmore did not 'make an end' of his strange conduct.

Mr North, but the judge was for him, and they must be satisfied. Then did he open a long history of matters upon record, of bulls, monasteries, orders, greater and lesser houses, surrenders, patents, and a great deal more, very proper, if it had been true, while the counsel on the other side stared at him; and having done, they bade him go to his evidence. He leaned back, as speaking to the attorney, and then, my lord, said he, we are very unhappy in this cause. The attorney tells me, they forgot to examine their copies with the originals at the Tower; and so, folding up his brief, my lord, said he, they must have the verdict, and we must come better prepared another time. So, notwithstanding all the mutiny the other side could make, the judge held them to it, and they were choused of the treble value. This was no iniquity, because it was not to defraud the duty, but to shift off the penalty¹. But the old gentleman told his cousin North, he had given away his cause. His lordship thought he had done him service enough; and could but just (with the help of the beforesaid reason) satisfy himself that he had not done ill.'

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The increased profits of the vicarage of Waterbeach have been described by Mr Masters himself. They arose from a portion of corn and hay tithes, from agistment of cattle, from wool, lambs, &c., from two acres of inclosed glebe-land, very valuable, with a small sum for surplice-fees and Easter-offerings. Since the inclosure, on the contrary, the vicar has received the rent of 29l a. 1r. 8p. of freehold land², almost all

¹ A singular apology for the very disreputable and unprofessional stratagem practised by the learned counsel. Roger North's excuse for his brother is founded on a correct application of that highly injurious distinction between that, which is merely a *malum prohibitum*, and that which is *malum in se*. It is to be regretted that Sir William Blackstone should have recognised this dangerous and unphilosophical distinction. The practice of Sir Matthew Hale (*Burnet's Life and Death*, p. 87, edit. 1682) was very different from that of Mr North. Note by the editor of the *Lives of the Norths*, Vol. i. p. 91, edit. 1826.

² Some of this, close to the village, is let out in small allotments,

arable, which were then allotted to him in different parts of the parish, but chiefly in the fen, together with a rent-charge of £73 from the owner of North fen, as tithe commutation, and a trifle on account of fees.

The vicarage pays to the bishop of Ely 11s. 7*d.* a year under the head of tenths, and 4*d.* as acquittance; but, being given in of only £39 5s. 11½*d.* yearly value, it was discharged from the payment of first-fruits by virtue of the Act of Parliament 6 Annæ [1707].

The parish-church¹ is dedicated to St John the Evangelist. It consists of a square tower with its five bells (cast in 1791), and clock, nave of three arches, and two side aisles, all covered with lead; a chancel, and two modern brick porches, tiled. A chantry chapel formerly stood at the east end of the north aisle, which, during many years, and down to a comparatively recent period, was used for the village school²; being, however, in an extremely dilapidated condition, it was removed about seventy years ago, and its materials applied to the repairs of the church. The church is small³, and must have always been, as it is now, inconveniently situated in respect to the village, from being placed quite at the south-east corner of it. This position (and in the neighbouring parish of Cottenham something similar is observable) may have arisen from the nature of the ground. The builders, or those directing them, chose the first high spot beyond the reach of the fen waters, because

chiefly to the poor, so that fifty-eight families have one rood each, and a few others a larger quantity.

¹ Meeting-houses belonging to the Baptist, Wesleyan, and Primitive Methodist connexions have likewise been erected in the parish: the first is of rather long standing.

² The present school-room on the green, for boys as well as girls, is a considerable enlargement made this year by the charity trustees of a room erected in 1816, through the exertions of the Rev. Richard Marks, the resident curate, for a girls' school. The school-house was built in 1831 by the trustees of the same charity.

³ Cole has a sketch of it, as it stood in 1745. MSS. Vol. viii. p. 38 b.

the material, whether stone or clunch, had to be brought from a distance in boats, and could thus be landed handy for use.

That a Norman church existed in Waterbeach, we can have not the smallest doubt, since the incumbents, and we know of a regular series of them from the middle of the twelfth century at least, must have had some appropriate building to officiate in. Another argument for its existence, and that, on the very spot where it still is, arises from the fact, that the east side of the pier on the north of the present nave displays transition Norman foliage, a relic, probably, of that church. The general character of the church now standing, as to its architecture, is Early English with Perpendicular insertions. The parts remaining, to indicate what it formerly was, besides the arches, and octagonal pillars of the nave, as well as certain masses of masonry, are the dripstone over the chancel-door, a very good north entrance door to the church with its mouldings also very good, and some dog-tooth ornament, &c. on the inside, the west window of the north aisle, the lowermost window of the tower, and, apparently, the south door. The nave, it is quite evident, was built at three separate times. This assertion may be distinctly proved by means of the hood-mouldings, the arches with their mouldings, and the capitals of the pillars. However, there may not have been any long interval between the erection of the several parts; so that the whole of it, with the remainder of the church, was completed perhaps within the first half of the thirteenth century. The earliest portion of the nave, with the exception of the Norman work before mentioned, which occupies unmoved its original position, comprises the two arches next the chancel on the south, which alone have no hood-moulding, but which have a remarkable capital to the middle pillar; then come the two arches opposite to them on the north; and lastly, the entire lower end of the nave. At this lower end are also two peculiarities, which distinguish it from the rest. First, the capitals on the western sides of the piers, with which it commences, are

different from those on the east, the piers themselves being rendered of a considerable breadth by the insertion, as it were, of solid blocks of stone-work, three feet broad. Secondly, the floor from these piers to the tower was lowered about half a foot, as we may perceive by the step still remaining on the north side. The inference from these circumstances seems to be, that this portion, to whatever use it was applied, was meant to be, and actually was, in some way distinct from the body of the church.

The south aisle underwent a thorough restoration about the latter half of the fifteenth century, the date, it may be, of all the present Perpendicular windows. At first there were five such windows in the aisle, the one at the east end, which, according to the usual custom, would have been the finest, because that part was used for a chantry chapel, having been long blocked up. A small square and deep piscina still exists in the wall. The battlements, and, most probably, important reparations of the roof, are to be referred to the year 1615, which date can be seen, cut in the stone, just over the middle north clerestory window on the outside. The upper part of the tower cannot be older than 1719, in which year a high wind¹ caused the spire to fall, whereby much injury was committed. The chancel was rebuilt in 1849 at the expence of the present lessee of the rectory. Its east window is still a triplet of lancets, though not exactly like what it was before: the door, too, instead of being any longer on the south side, where the priest's door was always wont to be placed, is now on the north side. Before 1849 the chancel-arch, which is large, the chancel being rather wider than the nave, was built up for support by a wall pierced with three low semicircular arches on short piers. Upon this wall hung in 1745 the royal arms with a table of benefactors. They were both taken down about 1814, when the church was whitewashed, and have never been replaced.

¹ A chapel adjoining the parish-church of Long Stow was blown down by the high wind of 1719.

Just over the chancel-arch, on the outside, is a stone fragment, which may have been the top of the niche for the sacring bell.

The fabric of the church is in a good and satisfactory condition: on the contrary, its interior is sadly in want of readjustment, from the nature and arrangement of the pews and gallery, (which gallery occupies one third of the nave, as well as conceals the tower arch), and might be greatly improved by a small outlay. Mr Masters says: 'In the year 1719 I find in the churchwardens' accounts a journey charged to Cambridge for putting out the steeple, when their expences amounted to upwards of £100. In the year 1721 their expences amounted to £67, and in that of 1723 to more than £117; and great sums of money have of late been commendably expended by the parishioners in supporting the fabric. I may add, that in the year 1746 a new clock was bought, which cost eighteen guineas, besides the expence of putting it up.'

An extract from some 'Ordenances,' prefixed to the manuscript book of Court Rolls, will come in appropriately here, since it instructs us, how the repairs of the church were occasionally provided for in by-gone times. 5 Nov. 19 Eliz. [1579]: That if the Quest or more of them shall agree to spare any part of the Common this yeare, that then it shalbe lawfull for the Churchwardens to sell the same toward thamendm^t of the Steeple wthout impeachm^t.

Judging chiefly from what we read in the wills of that period, Waterbeach church before the Reformation had a high altar, an altar in the chantry chapel at the east end of both aisles, an image of St Katerine, and a rood-loft, (a small portion of which yet exists worked up into what was until recently the vicar's pew,) with, of course, the rood, and its accompanying images of the Virgin Mary and St John.

A messuage upon the greene is said 6 Hen. VI. [1427] to pertain to the pitancie¹ of S. Katerine in Denney. The Court

¹ The fund out of which the nuns' pittances, or daily doles, were provided.

Rolls also mention 'Holy Land' of S. Katerine the Virgin, 15 Hen. VIII. [1523]. (*Katerine* de Bolwyk was abbess first of Waterbeach, then of Denney.) The blessed Mary, as well as S. Mary Magdalene, had 'Holy Land,' 6 and 11 Hen. VIII. [1514, 1519].

Three gilds were kept in the church, namely, the gild of Jesus, of our Lady, and of All Hallows, each having its own priest, and its own small altar, with an image of its patron. These religious gilds, founded on the principle of mutual help with regard to this world and the next, bore a very great resemblance to our present benefit clubs, even in attending the deceased members to the grave, though not, in providing priests to pray, and sing masses, for the souls of their members, both living and dead¹.

The account about to be given of church furniture is taken out of an ancient manuscript book, entitled *Vetus Liber Archidiaconatus Eliensis*², in the library of Caius College (No. 204); and containing a similar account for each parish within the archdeaconry of Ely. The writing belongs to two different periods, and records the results of two separate visitations, which are distinctly marked. Ralph de Fodringay was archdeacon at the former, and Gaillard de Mota, cardinal deacon of the church of Rome, probably, at the latter, for he held the office of archdeacon from 1344 to 1358, and the additions are pronounced not to be 'lower than 1349.' The vicar of Waterbeach, because holding a Bishop's living, used to claim exemption from the Archdeacon's visitation. A scheme relating to Peculiars within the diocese of Ely, prepared by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, was gazetted 20th April, 1852, by order of the Privy Council: this brought him once more under his authority.

1306. Ecclesia de Waterbeche appropriata priori de

¹ Masters' *Hist. of Corpus Christi College*, pp. 3, 4; and Append. pp. 3, 4; Watson's *Hist. of Wisbech*, pp. 139, &c.; Rock's *Church of our Fathers*, Vol. II. pp. 395, &c.

² Art. 11, p. 80.

Bernewelle: habet vicarium: taxatur ad vj¹ (?) marcas: solvit pro synodalibus ij^s. iiij^{d2}; [pro] procurationibus xvij^{d3}; [pro] denariis sancti Petri xvij^d. Ornamenta sunt hæc: ij missalia bonum⁴: ij gradualia cum troperiis: duo portitaria⁵: ij antiphonaria: ij legendæ: ij psaltaria [psalteria]: j martilogium: unum ordinale in uno volumine: tria paria vestimentorum, unum cum pertinentiis: iiij superpellicea: ij rocheta: unus calix⁶: crismatorium bonum: pixis eburnea: crux enea, et alia pro mortuis⁷ (?): turribulum bonum: lanterna: v phiole: unum vestimentum bonum de novo datum ecclesiæ⁸; duo frontalita: velum quadragesimale⁹: lucerna: turribulum.

1349. Unum vestimentum cum casula, tunica, dalmatica, de una setta, cum toto apparatu, de dono domini Johannis de Staunton vicarii ejusdem pro salute animæ suæ. Sunt duo calices: j(unum) portiforium de dono Thomæ Pirsones¹⁰:

¹ Most probably vij. See p. 32.

² See Gibson's *Codex*, Tom. II. p. 1016.

³ *Ibid.* The bishop receives, at the time of his visitations, 3s. 4d. from the farmer of the impropriate rectory as procurations, and 4d. as acquittance.

⁴ The ij. added by a later hand, and the termination of bonum left as before. For a description of the books, and other church furniture, recourse should be had to Rock's *Church of our Fathers*, London, 1849.

⁵ Portuaries, that is, portiforia.

⁶ *Duo calices* written over, but both crossed out.

⁷ Supposing mortuis to be the word, this cross was accustomed to be used in funeral processions.

⁸ The last four words are crossed out.

⁹ In Lent the images were covered: the chancel also was separated from the body of the church by a curtain. See Becon's *Works*, Vol. I. p. 111, Park. Soc. Rock gives a wood-cut representing the inside of a church during Lent. Vol. III. Part 2, p. 224.

¹⁰ There are three letters between Thomæ and Pirsones, which cannot be deciphered. Do they stand for fitz? Pirsones or Parsons may have been an ancestor of Thomas Parsons of Ely, who, about 1420, left property, now worth £1500 a year, to that city for the payment of its tenths and fifteenths. Thomas Pirsones, like Sir John de Staunton, hoped, no doubt, for the prayers of the church in return for his gift.

v vexilla¹: ij inoyers² de servicio corporis Christi: ij candelabra (?) de latin³.

In the branch Public Record Office, Carlton Ride, is preserved a Book of Church Goods for the county of Cambridge, where we find:—Hundred de Norstowe. Wat'beache. This is a trewe and perfect Inventorie indentid made and taken the iiijth day of August anno Regis E. viⁱ. sexto [1552] by us Richarde Wylkes, clerke, Henry Gooderycke and Thomas Rudston, Esquyres, Commyssioners⁴, emongest others assigned for the surveye and vieu of alle maner of goodes, plate, jewelles, belles and ornamentes as yet be remayning forthcommyng and belonging to y^e parishechurche there, as hereafter foloweth.

Plate—Fyrst ther is one chalyce of syluer wth y^e patent parcelle gylte poz [poids]—ix ounces and di.

Ornementes—Item one redde veluet cope, one vestem^t of y^e same, one vestem^t of blacke veluet, one olde redde cope, a crosse of latten wth a crosse clothe of sylke, iiij slevd surples, and ix rochettes, iiij alter clothes.

Belles—Item there is in y^e steple — iiij great belles and one sanctus belle.

All which parcelles aboue wrytton, be delyuered and commytted by us the saide Commyssioners vnto y^e salue kepyng of German Cheryngton, Wylliam Hasylle, and John Pereson,

¹ Used in processions, particularly on 'gang days' in rogation week. Rock has a drawing of some, Vol. III. Part 2, p. 255.

² Whether the word be inoyers or moyers, it is equally unintelligible. Perhaps neither is right.

³ Brass.

⁴ Of these commissioners for Cambridgeshire, Richard Wylkes was master of Christ's College, and prebendary of Ely Cathedral, in which city he died and was buried: Henry Gooderycke, (a nephew, most likely, of Thomas, bishop of Ely,) afterwards a prebendary in some cathedral; and Thomas Rudston, whose ordinary residence was at Swaffham Bulbeck, owner of the manor of Thorrocke in Essex, and escheator in 1536 and 1542 for the counties of Cambridge and Huntingdon. Messrs Cooper's *Athen. Cantab.* pp. 162, 214, 549; Parker's *Correspondence*, p. 202.

parishooners there¹, to be at all tymes forthcommynge to be answered, except and reserued the said chalyce, poz — ix oz. and di. the saide cope of redde veluet, one other olde redde cope w^t y^e saide alter clothes and rocchettes delyvered to y^e salue kepyng of John Cowper and Christofer Bankes, churchwardens, for thonlie mayntenance [of] dyuyne seruyce in y^e saide parochie churche. The several parties, with the exception of the churchwardens, signed this document, and also Johannes Marcelis, curate.

Henry Lane, of Waterbeach, left vi^{li}. in 1509, to buyinge a cowppe (for the church). We may well suppose this to have been the silver gilt cup, having a patent, or cover, and weighing 9½ ounces, which the royal commissioners of 1552 found here, and which they delivered over to the churchwardens, because necessary for the performance of divine service. It could not, however, have continued long in their custody: in some way or other it was soon disposed of. For the very beautiful silver-gilt cup and cover, now in the possession of the parish, dates from that same period. Mr Octavius Morgan published in 1853 certain Tables of the Annual Assay Office Letters. Taking these Tables for our guides, and looking to the assay marks on our communion plate, we are compelled to assign it to the year 1557, a date which is fully borne out even by the character of the cup. It is shaped like a tasse, ornamented round the top in an extremely elegant manner, and has three busts of men in bold relief on the foot. Of course, it may not have been given to the parish the exact year in which it was made; of this we can now have no knowledge. Underneath the bottom, near the rim, are three capital letters,

¹ The object of the commission was to obtain property, which might be sold for the payment of the debts of Edward VI. Hence whatever, in the discretion of the commissioners, did not seem requisite for the divine service was given into the salue kepyng of responsible parishioners. Heylyn's *Hist. of the Reform.* Vol. i. pp. 281, &c. Eccles. Hist. Soc.

somewhat rudely cut $\begin{smallmatrix} M \\ CD \end{smallmatrix}$. These may, and most likely do, indicate the name of the donor. John Marre was presented to the vicarage of Waterbeach 11th October, 1560: why may it not have been his gift? His predecessor, Marcelis, styled himself in 1552, as we have seen, curate rather than vicar, though he really was the incumbent of the living. Marre may have done the same, wherefore we may reasonably conjecture the three letters to signify—Marre curate dedit. The cup by itself weighs 9 ounces, not quite so much as the former one; with the cover, $15\frac{1}{4}$ ounces. The leathern case, in which the cup is kept, and which is fitted to its shape, is likewise ancient.

Within the altar rails lie three large slabs. One of them is—Sacred to the memory of William Williams, M. A. and vicar of this Parish; where, after a constant residence for the space of eighteen years, he departed this life, October 13th, A.D. 1812, aged 65. He was a loyal Subject, a vigilant Magistrate, the Friend of the poor, and, in every other respect, a sincere and pious Christian. The middle one, of black marble, has this inscription:—Here lyeth interred the body of Will^m. Stane, D^r. in Physick, one of the Fellows and Elects of the Colledge of Physitians in London, who dyed the 11th. of Feby, 1679, aged 70. His arms are placed above the inscription, viz. a bend cotized, though, by an omission of the stone-cutter, the bend has only one cotize on each side. Near him were probably deposited, some years afterwards, the remains of his widow. Dr Stane held the demesne lands of the manor of Willingham. He was a native of Essex, and took the degree of M.B. in 1635 at Emmanuel College. Clarendon¹ notices a Dr Staines, ‘a notable fanatic,’ but his Christian name was Richard, and he was one of the persons appointed in 1645 for ejecting scandalous ministers in the counties of Cambridge and Huntingdon. The third stone, which

¹ *Hist. of the Rebellion*, Book x. § 135.

bears no inscription of any kind, will be accounted for afterwards.

On the floor, in front of the altar rails¹, lies a stone—In memory of Edward Robert, the infant son of Edward and Mary Ann Mason, who departed this life Feb. 28, 1832, aged 18 weeks.—Also George Henry, their son, who died May 26, 1842, aged 6 months.—Also Edward Ivatt, their son, who died March 17, 1847, aged 12 years. Another stone in the chancel is—To the memory of Mary, the daughter of George and Isabella Peck, who died May 4, 1752, in the 17th year of her age.

Upon the north wall of the nave is a plain tablet—In memory of John William Wiles, son of William Smith and Ann Wiles, who died at Melbourne in Australia June 21, 1853, aged 21 years. In the middle aisle lies an old grey slab of Purbeck marble having the matrix of a brass of two figures, a male and female, with its inscription beneath them. Under this stone so mutilated was deposited, 9th April, 1745, the corpse of John F. Cory, vicar of Waterbeach, but without any thing to mark the place of his burial. At the east end of the north aisle has been placed a mural monument—Sacred to the memory of Samuel Peach, Esq. of Portland place, London; Lord of the manor of Whaddon in Gloucestershire, Idlicote in Warwickshire, and of Waterbeach cum Denny in this county; formerly a member of the select committee of supercargoes in the Hon. East India Company's Service in China, who departed this life on the 17th August, 1832, in the 70th year of his age. On a small freestone in the south aisle we have an inscription to Mrs Katherine Knight, the daughter of Will. Knight, gent. of Denny Abby, who dep. this life March y^e 9th, 1726, aged 84 years. The register gives 1727-8 as the year of burial, and 83 as the age: it also styles her 'an Antient Maide.'

¹ Cole tells us, that in 1745 'the altar was neither railed in, nor stood on any eminence.'

This Mr William Knight was the husband of Anne or Annis¹ Hobson, daughter of Thomas Hobson, the noted Cambridge carrier. Mrs Anne Knight, of Wicken, buried here 17th March, 1681-2, was, probably, William Knight's wife, to whom Hobson², her father, who died 1st January, 1630-31, bequeathed the remainder of his lease for thirty years of the Denney Abbey estate, which he held of the crown. Mrs Dorothy Knight, who died likewise 'an old Maid' at the age of 93, and was buried here 1st September, 1741, must have been another daughter of the same gentleman. His son William (the third generation with the same Christian name) was buried at Waterbeach, 16th December, 1705.

Mrs Katherine Pepys, of Cottenham, widow, by will dated 31st May, and proved 24th June, 1703, bequeathed to her granddaughter, Mrs Alice Dacres, her two best coach-horses and chariot, her mother's picture, her cypress chest, and old Mr Hobson's picture³; and to Mrs Katherine Knight, the lady whose burial has just been recorded, sister of Elizabeth Jeffereys, £5: to Roger Pepys, of Impington, Esq., to Roger and Charles Gale, sons of Dr Thomas Gale, one guinea each for rings; and to Mr John Pepys, of Impington, £5.

Besides the stones on the floor mentioned above, there are others, particularly one of a very antique shape near the tower; but, being without inscriptions, the persons whom they covered, cannot be ascertained. A largish stone, similarly without inscription, lies at the very entrance of the church on the north; it may have been the altar-stone in Roman Catholic times, now turned with its proper side downwards.

¹ Richard Annis was admitted to land of the manor of Waterbeach cum Denney 6 Jac. I. [1608].

² See his will at large in the Collection of curious Historical pieces at the end of Peck's *Memoirs of Oliver Cromwell*, pp. 44, &c. A full abstract of it is in Cooper's *Annals of Cambridge*, Vol. III. pp. 234, 235. See also *The Cambridge Portfolio*, Vol. II. pp. 311, &c.

³ There was a connexion between the families of Pepys and Hobson. *Ibid.* Vol. II. p. 417.

The four Perpendicular windows in the south aisle were originally filled with painted glass: at present, only small fragments of canopies, &c., remain, with a few coats of arms in the tracery, nearly all mutilated, pertaining, it may be, to benefactors to the church. We have in the first window from the east, azure, a talbot passant, argent, for Burgoyne, an ancient family of this county, a branch of which was settled at Impington¹. John Burgoyne occupied a tenement belonging to the manor of Waterbeach cum Denney, 4 Hen. V. [1416], and died 15 Hen. VI. [1436], leaving a son William, who coming not in course to be admitted to his father's property, it was seized into the lady's hands. The same window exhibits a portion only of a coat of arms; the part in base, which has been left, contains those of the Zouches, descendants in the male line of the Earls of Brittany²: gules, ten bezants in pile. Out of the remnants of what must have been two similar coats of arms still existing in adjoining compartments in the second window, one entire coat can be formed—a fesse, azure, between two hares³ couchant, gules. These we may well believe, though we have no authority for the assertion, were intended for the arms of Harewood or Harwood. Thomas Harewood, of Waterbeach, took to farme of the Ladie Abbess, 49 Edw. III. [1375], foure acres of the demeasne Landes, to hould the same for the tearme of sixe yeares vnder the yearely rent of iijs. iiij^d. per acre. Robert Harwoode surrendered one messuage with other property, 1 Eliz. [1559], to the vse of his wife and son. The third window contains the arms of Sir John Cutt, Knt., impaled with those of Elizabeth his wife. Cutt's arms are, argent, on a bend engrailed, sable, three plates: his wife's, argent, a chevron sable, between three bugle-horns stringed, sable. Sir John Cutt, of

¹ Blomefield's *Collect. Cantab.* pp. 24, 25.

² Ellis' *General Introduction to Domesday Book*, Vol. I. p. 366.

³ Cole gives a drawing of these arms, as if they consisted of a fesse between *three lions*. Sir John Cutt bore the arms of Harwood; but his shield, which is represented in the Harleian MSS., No. 1534, p. 35, has also two *lions* with a fesse between them.

the county of York, married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John de Ruda, alias de Routhe, of Routhe in Holderness, in the county of York, Knt., and sister and coheir of John de Ruda. Either that Sir John Cutt, or his son, bought the manor of Childerley¹ in the time of Hen. VII., to whom he was under-treasurer of England, and one of the privy council. He probably resided on his manor, and was, in 1516, the first high sheriff for the two counties of Cambridge and Huntingdon. He died at his manor of Horeham Hall, in Thaxsted, Essex, 4 April, 12 Hen. VIII. [1521], and was buried in the parish-church². The next compartment in the third window has two coats of arms side by side belonging to the same family, whoever it was: sable, a fesse, or, between, apparently, three reynards passant. In the upper parts of all the windows are a good many ornamental quarries: five of them have been engraved³. The vestry is at the west end of this south aisle. Near the door of it stands the font: it is Early English, plain and octagonal, supported by a single octagonal shaft.

These extracts from the parish-books are not undeserving of notice:—8th April, 1679, £3 3s. 10d. were collected in y^e parish of Water-Beach upon y^e Brief for y^e rebuilding of St Paul's. Decemb. y^e 20th, 1680, £2 9s. 7d. were collected in the parish of Water-Beach for and towards the redemption of Christian English captives in Algiers, &c. 24th February, 1681-2, £1 9s. 8d. were collected in the parish-church upon y^e brief for the relief of y^e poor distressed Protestants of France.

A curious document must here be inserted:—‘27 Januarii, Anno Dom. 1586-7. A Confession to be made by William Serjent, of Waterbeache. The said William Serjent shall upon

¹ Childerley manor-house became, 9th June, 1647, one of the resting-places of Charles I., when cornet Joyce was conducting him from Holdenby to Newmarket. Dugdale's *Short View of the late Troubles in England*, p. 241.

² Cole's *MSS.* Vol. XLVIII. p. 153; Morant's *Hist. of Essex*, Vol. II. p. 439.

³ Franks' *Ornamental Glazing Quarries*, 1849.

Sunday, being the 29th of January next comeing, immediately after the reading of the Gospell, come forth of hys Seate in the Church of Waterbeach aforesayd, unto the Middle Allye, there to the place where the Minister read the same Gospell, and there standing, he shall with a lowd voice say and confesse, as followeth:—Good Neighbours, I acknowledge and confesse that I have offended Almighty God, and by my evell Example you all, in that I have not come to Church in due time upon the Sabbath Daye, for which I am hartily sorrye, and I humbly beseech God, and earnestly desire you all to pray to God for me, and to forgive, and to take example at this my Punishment, promising by God's Grace never to offend in the like.

‘And of the doing hereof in Manner and Forme aforesayd, he shall under the Handes of the Minister and Churchwardens there personally certifie, together with these Presents, at Great St Maries Church in Cambridge, upon Friday, being the tenth daye of Februarie next comeing, and then and there receive such further Order herein, as shall be appointed.

RIC. BRIDGWATER¹.

‘William Serjent made his Confession according to the Tenour of these Presents in the Parish Church of Waterbeach the 29th day of January, above wrytten. Per me, Tho. Payne, vicar, ibid. John Hasell, John Froment, his Marke.

To the Vicar of Waterbeach deliver This².’

A similar instance of ecclesiastical discipline is recorded in the second oldest register book; the handwriting appears to be that of the Rev. William Williams, but he adds no date to the transaction. He states, that an inhabitant of Waterbeach read the following declaration in the church, and afterwards gave twenty shillings to the poor of the parish:—‘I do acknowledge, that I was lately guilty of a heinous offence in coming

¹ He was a fellow of King's College, and Public Orator; was made chancellor of the diocese of Ely 10th July, 1579, and immediately after collated to the rectory of Elm cum Emneth, by Bishop Coxe.

² Grey's *Impartial Examination of Neal's Hist. of the Puritans*, Vol. iv. Append. p. 62.

into the church disordered with liquor, and disturbing the congregation, and, as a testimony of my concern for the same, do in this public manner beg their pardon, and promise not to behave so indecently for the future.'

The parish registers commence with December, 1653. On the first page of the present oldest book Andrew Linton, of Waterbeach, who had been chosen by the inhabitants registrar for births, marriages, and burials, according to the directions of an Act of Parliament passed 24th August preceding, is duly appointed to that office, 3rd December, under the signature of William Pickering, mayor of Cambridge. Linton did not attend to his new duties. His portion of the register is consequently very defective, so that, towards the end of 1658, when the vicar, William Sayer, again got possession of it, he found himself compelled to insert the following notice:—Memorandum to other generations, that this booke was left thus imperfect, while the register was in office, you maye see his authority, page y^e first. From 1658 downwards the registers have been carefully kept, and are also nearly quite complete.

Three entries from the register for burials may be now quoted:—Anna Smith, garden-tree woman¹, buried 26th May, 1670. Francis Wilson, excom[municated], buried in his orchard, 10th Dec. 1679. A male child of Thomas Monsey, being a Chrysom², buried y^e 22nd of April, 1696.

The churchyard, which is very small, containing not quite half an acre, and which had for some years become overcrowded,

¹ A gate close to the river, where Joist fen and Midload fen join, used to be called Garden-tree gate. Hereby, down to the time of the inclosure, stood a house, the residence of the collector of tolls from all who used the bank, for the commissioners of the Level: the toll is now collected at Upware. Not far from Clayhithe, in Midload fen, still exists a cottage well known for a very long period by the name of the Brewhouse; but why, it seems impossible to discover. It is so styled in the Drainage Act of 1740.

² Unbaptized. See Wheatly *On the Book of Common Prayer*, p. 603, edit. 1858. Monsey was an old name in the parish, Margaret Muncey being one of those appointed to sell ale, 6 Hen. VIII. [1515].

was closed by order of the Privy Council in the autumn of 1855, a piece of ground exactly similar in size, situated a little to the east of the church, having been first purchased by the inhabitants, and consecrated by the bishop of Ely in the preceding year, as a graveyard¹. Burials in the interior of the church were prohibited at the same time, and by the same authority.

At the west end of the north aisle, on the outside, is a mural tablet, whose inscription runs:—Beneath this Tablet lies buried Mary, widow of the late John Turner, Esq., of Cadbury, Devonshire. Who died at Denny Abbey, July 29, 1838, aged 74 years. And in the churchyard a large cenotaph over a vault:—Sacred to the memory of John Hemington, Esq., who departed this life the xvth of Sep. M.DCC.XCVIII., aged LXIII. years.—Also of Grace, the wife of John Hemington, Esq., who departed this life the ivth of March, M.DCCC.XXII., aged LXXXIII. years.—To the memory of John Hemington, Esq., of Trumpington, in the county of Cambridge, and formerly of Denny Abbey in this parish, died 21st August, 1836, æt. 68.

A licence of mortmain was granted 11 Jul. 38 Edw. III. [1364], on the payment of half a mark, to Thomas Smetheson, of Chesterton, Robert Boute and Thomas Freman, of Waterbech, to give a messuage with the appurtenances, of the yearly value of eighteen pence, to John of Canterbury, vicar of Waterbech. This is styled by Tanner, in his account of Denney, olim Daneia, habitatio vicarii; on the contrary, Mr Masters conceives it to have been another house, standing in a small inclosure of glebe at some distance from the vicarage. 9 Hen. VI. [1431]: The Ladye Abbessesse lettes to farme to John Causton, Viccar of Waterbeech, one Toft in Waterbeech wth thappurtenances, To hould to the s^d John Causton and his succeedinge viccars of Waterbeech duringe the tearme of Fourescore yeares, Vnder

¹ Opposite to this graveyard, on the other side of the road, is some ground, occupied during very many years as a market-garden, which is well known by the names of 'Parson's close,' and 'The Camping close:' the latter appellation it may have obtained from having formerly been a place of recreation for the villagers.

the yearly rent of Two shillings. The vicarage has been long on the same site as at present, though for how many years, or even centuries, there is now no possibility of determining. It is a roomy, convenient residence, with a large garden, occupying altogether nearly two acres, but placed at too great a distance from the church.

Another gift may be recorded; however, it is only connected with ancient times, and even then did not take effect. 21 Edw. III. [1347]: Jeffery Palmere and Maud his wife devised to the vicar of Beche a pond to put fish in.

Among the old wills, recently in the bishop of Ely's office at Cambridge, and now deposited in the District Registry at Peterborough, are many very curious ones, made before the Reformation by inhabitants of this parish.

In the year 1486-7, Flora Walkred bequeathed a black ram for her principal [mortuary]: to the high altar four bushels of barley for tithes forgotten, and iijs. iiij^d. towards casting the great bell.

A mortuary was only due by custom. It was offered as a satisfaction for the supposed negligence or omission the deceased had been guilty of in not paying his personal tithes, that is, the tithes of the moveable goods and chattels possessed by him at the time of his death. It was usual in ancient days, Lyndwood tells us, for the mortuary to be brought with the corpse to the church, whence its other name of *corse-present*¹. The mortuary was manifestly distinct from the legacy for tithes forgotten, since the former was left to the priest, the latter to the high altar. No mention of it occurs in the burial register of Waterbeach, except during the incumbency of Roger Sturgeon, who five times records his having received ten shillings as a mortuary on the death of some parishioner.

In 1509 Henry Lane gave a reed horned hekferth [heifer] for his principall: to the High auter iijs. iiij^d.: to the byldyng

¹ Watson's *Clergyman's Law*, pp. 569, 583; Rock's *Church of our Fathers*, Vol. III. Part I. pp. 25, &c.

of the church roof iiij^{li}.: to buyinge a cowppe vj^{li}.: to the sepulchre lyght¹, and to the torches ij^s. iiij^d. each: to the bells vj^s. viij^d.: to Denney Abbey xxxvj^s. viij^d.; and to Landbeach church xl^s.

Richard Ronde, poth[ecary], gave, in 1513, to the high auter for tithes and oblacions forgotten a wedder shepe: to the byldynge of the roode loft xx^s. money or money worth: to the masse of Ihs to find the pryste for a yere xvij^s. viij^d.: to our Ladyes and All Hallows Guylde a hew shepe each: to the reparacion of the hygh way to the Church wardens² one wedder shepe: to the reparacion of the bells xx^d.: to the torches xx^d.

In 1515 Richard Wallys, husbandman, bequeathed to the heigh auter of the church for his tithes forgotten xij^d.: to the roode one bushell of barley: to Jesus Guylde³ within the sayde church one shepe: to the reparacion of the bells one bushell of barley; and to the viccar for his principall the best of his wedder shepe.

John Cony bequeathed in 1520 to master viccar his goostly father for a mortuare one dunned calf of one yere of age: to our Lady to buy ij smayll [small?] torches, and thei to be occupied at the Antem⁴ of our Lady every nyght, v^s.: to manteynyng of the same forsayd lyght one hekeferth two yere of age, and it to remayne in the hands of y^e churchwardenes.

William Goldsmith, alias Barber, gave in 1521 for his buryall in the chancel vj^s. viij^d., with viij marks⁵ for a priest to syng for

¹ See page 60.

² Possibly, the pathway from the vicarage to the church; portions of such a pathway laid with stone are even now perceptible, though, of course, they are not the remains of Richard Ronde's 'hygh way.'

³ 8 April, 6 Hen. VIII. [1515]: John Watson upon his death bedde surrendreth one acre of Land, and one Osyerholt lyeinge neare Hyst syde Ad opus et vsum Rici [Ricardi] Walys et Johs Jackston magistrorum sive Aldermanorum Gildie sive Fraternitatis Ihu in Waterbeech et successorum suorum, ad opus prædictæ Gildie et Fraternitatis.

⁴ See Rock's *Church of our Fathers*, Vol. III. Part I. p. 275.

⁵ The wages of such a yearly priest, for board, apparel, and other necessities, were limited to seven marks by 2 Hen. V. [1415], Stat. 2,

his soule one yere: to the reparacion of the causeys xxxiiij^s. iiij^d.; and to the lady of the convent of Denney xl^s.

William Rolff, husbandman, bequeathed in 1533-4, his soule to Almighty God, to the Ladye S. Mary, and to all the hollye companye of heaven: his body to be buried in the churche: to the hyghe alter for tithes forgotten vj^s. viij^d.: to the reparacons of the bells and to the Sepulchre lyght a cowe and calfe each: to Jesus Gild a cowe and calfe: to our Ladyes gild iiij ewes and iiij lambes: to All Hallowes gild iij ewes and iij lambes: to the lady Abbas of Denney xx^s.: to an honest priest to syng for his soule, and for his frendes soules by the space of an hole yeare vj^{li}.: to the reparacions of the causes in Waterbeche xx^s.

In 1535 Thomas Fyrmant, husbandman, bequeathed his parte of the Ferme of the Lordshepe of Waterbeche to be devided emong his thre marrowes [intimate friends], they to paye his wife x^{li}.

Elizabeth Kylborne was a very considerable benefactress to the poor in 1556-7. She bequeathed the whole price of her howse and land, which she had sould to John Kylborne her son in lawe, to be devided to and emongst the povertye in Waterbeech in the space of x yeaes, the present yeare xx poundes in bread, and every year after for the space of viij yeaes iiij^{li}., and the last year x^{li}.: to Presydent Beyne her mayde all her best apparell, both wollen and lynnyn, and vj peces of the best pewter, one cowe called cherye, and v^{li}. to be delivered on the day of her marriage, if she die first, to the poor of Waterbeech: to Alice Hornyngsey a frocke that she wore every holly day: to mother Spenser her working day apparell: at her buryall daye, seventh daye, and thirty daye¹, every house ij^d. at the discre-

cap. 2. But the provisions of this Act were soon transgressed. Fleetwood's *Chron. Precios.* pp. 111, &c. He always officiated at a private altar, which generally stood level with the ground.

¹ See Rock's *Church of our Fathers*, Vol. II. p. 516; and Vol. III. Part I. pp. 9, &c.

sions of her executor and churchwardens, as they most need : to the town of Waterbeech two kyen to be letten yerely to the poore: towarde the reparacions of the churche of Waterbeche vii.: tenne combes of barely immediately after her departing to be bestowed one every weke in bread, and gyvyn to the povertye, and in Lentene next following x. more.

THE INCUMBENTS.

William was rector of Waterbeach very early. The exact date is not specified, though it must have been during the episcopate of Nigel, bishop of Ely, who sat from 1133 to 1169.

Bernard was likewise rector of Waterbeach, and in the time of Nigel, he being in 1166 one of the witnesses to the deed, whereby Robert the chamberlain made a grant of lands, tithes, &c., to the monks of Denney¹. William and Bernard witnessed Aubrey Picot's confirmation of his father Henry's gift to the monks of Elmeney: the former is styled in that document sacerdos de Beche; the latter, presbyter de Beche². From Mr Masters³ we learn, that priests named William and Bernard were rectors of Landbeach, whilst Nigel was bishop. They, probably, held both livings.

Fr. *Johannes de Carmelo*, John, a Carmelite friar, was colated to this rectory in the reign of Richard I. The Carmelite, or white, friars, were, about 1189, settled at Chesterton, but soon removed to Newnham, an ancient hamlet of Cambridge⁴.

Bartholomew was rector at the period of the appropriation of the living by William de Longcamp to the prior and canons regular of Barnwell: he resigned it 13th January, 1197-8. A priest called Bartholomew was rector of Landbeach at that time. If it was the same priest, he served three livings, Calde-

¹ Dugdale's *Monast. Angl.* Vol. vi. Part iii. p. 1549.

² Cole's *MSS.* Vol. xxxvi. p. 185 b.

³ *Hist. of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge*, Append. p. 20.

⁴ Leland's *Collect.* Vol. ii. p. 442.

cote being the third. A monk Bartholomew witnessed the confirmation by Conan IV., Duke of Brittany, and Earl of Richmond, of his chamberlain Robert's grants to the monks of Denney.

On the resignation of Bartholomew, vicars were appointed to succeed; the names, however, of none of them are known before 1295, unless what follows bears upon the point, it being customary in that early age for Waterbeach and Landbeach, both of which were simply called Beche, to be held together. 19 May, 18 John [1216], William, the son of Humfrey, had the king's letters of presentation to the church of [Land] Beche, the donation whereof pertained to the king, because the lands of Robert de Beche¹ were in his hands. In 1295, as will afterwards appear in the account of the nuns minoresses of Waterbeach,

Constantine was vicar, and so continued in 1302.

Ds *Johannes de Staunton* was vicar sometime before 1349². Probably, he succeeded Constantine, and was himself succeeded by

William Hickdonne or *de Haukedonne*. 7 Edw. III. [1333]: Robert Ackey surrendreth one acre and an half of Meadowe in le Holough to the vse of William Hickdonne, Vicar of the Parishe Church of Waterbeech and his heres. One Toft wth a Croft adioyninge was, in 1421, still called Hickdonn's.

Johannes Thomas de Asshewelle was vicar 12 Edw. III. [1338]³. He is styled Sir John in the Court Rolls, under the date of 16 Edw. III. [1342].

Fr. *Johs. de Wrathworth*, or *Wrattlesworth*, canon regular of Barnwell, was instituted 6th July, 1349. Regist.⁴ L'Isle, fol. 23. A cottage was allowed, 25 Edw. III. [1351], to be let to John, vicar of Waterbeach, for ten years. The predecessor of John de Wrathworth had, of course, been carried off by the

¹ Page 6.

² Page 41.

³ *Calend. Inquisit. post mortem*, Tom. II. p. 86.

⁴ These registers only begin with the year 1336; and even from that time to the present several whole volumes are wanting. Nichols' *Literary Anecdotes*, Vol. II. p. 687.

very disastrous plague, which, beginning in the north of Asia, spread from one end of Europe to the other, and desolated England early in 1349. Bentham supposed the diocese of Ely to have then had 145 incumbents (now it has 174), and Bishop L'Isle's register shews for the year 1349, beginning and ending with March 25th, an admission of 92, more than one-half of the whole, though some few parishes occur twice¹. Bateman, bishop of Norwich, founded Trinity Hall in consequence of the same plague, to secure a constant supply of clergy for his diocese. The members of his college were to cultivate the study of the canon law, in which he was himself a great proficient².

Fr. *Johs. de Cantuar.*, canon regular of Barnwell, succeeded to the living, 19th July, 1352. *Ibid.* fol. 43. About 1357 he was admitted into the fraternity of Corpus Christi Gild in Cambridge. The Court Rolls, by an evident mistake, refer to the same vicar under the name of John Atterbury. *Cantuar.* or *Canterbury*, has, most likely, been substituted for *Cambridge*. The names of these two places were often interchanged. Fuller notices it as occurring even in the case of a Parliament held at Cambridge in 1388. So also we find *Canterbury* for *Cambridge* in two entries in the Court Rolls, 8 Hen. V. [1420], and 8 Edw. IV. [1468]. It is surprising that Cole, writing to Horace Walpole in 1771, should commit the same error³; but then his antiquarian studies unwittingly misled him.

Johannes Elys de Inge atte Stone, Lond. Dioc. Pauper presbyter, was instituted 21st January, 1389-90. *Regist. Fordham*, fol. 21.

¹ Cole's *MSS.* Vol. xxiii. pp. 72, &c. Bentham and Stevenson's *Hist. of Ely Cathedral*, Vol. II. Notes, pp. 87, 88.

² Blomefield's *Hist. of Norfolk*, Vol. II. p. 362; Peck's *Desid. Curios.* Lib. VII. pp. 239, &c.; Fleetwood's *Chron. Precios.* p. 76. Sir Walter Manny's foundation of the monastery of Charterhouse arose out of the same plague. Stow's *Survey*, Vol. II. pp. 61, 62, edit. 1722; Bentham and Stevenson's *Hist. of Ely Cathedral*, Vol. II. Append. p. 16.

³ Fuller's *Hist. of the Univers. of Cambridge*, p. 55; Warburton's *Life of Horace Walpole*, Vol. II. p. 380.

Fr. *Hen. Fencotes*, canon regular of Barnwell, succeeded to the living, 18th October, 1405, on the death of Sir Jo. Elys. *Ibid.* fol. 92.

Hen. Wygenhale, chaplain¹, was taxed at vi^s. viii^d. in 1406, and, probably, as vicar, for the vicarage was assessed at the same sum in 1488, and 1492, when under the value of twelve marks².

Ds *Johs. Causton* was the next vicar, the time of whose institution it is not possible to discover. He held the living in 1430, since 9 Hen. VI. this entry occurs in the Court Rolls:—The Ladie Abbess lettes to farme to John Cavestone, viccar of Waterbeach one Toft, &c. To hould to the said John Cavestone duringe the tearme of Twentie foure yeares Vnder the yearly rent of vi^s.

Fr. *Johs. Whaddon*, canon regular of Barnwell, succeeded 28th April, 1460, on the death of Causton. Whaddon, being then upwards of thirty years of age, was elected prior of Barnwell, 24th September, 1464, in the room of John Pocket; whereupon he resigned the vicarage of Waterbeach. *Regist. Gray*, fol. 46. Something singular happened at Whaddon's elevation to his new dignity, as appears from the following extract out of bishop Gray's register, foll. 182, 183³. '28 Aug. 1464, Obiit Fr. Johs. Poket, Prior de Barnwell, et in ecclesia conventuali ibidem sepultus est. 24 Sep., xi Canones præsunt in electione, inter quos Johes Cambrygg et Willus Tebald. Repente, quasi per inspirationem S. S. concorditer et communiter,

¹ One who said mass at a small private altar, a chantry or soul-priest. Almost every parish had several of them. At Leverington, in 1406, there were no fewer than seven, and at Wisbech ten. Such priests, as well as the Gild-priests, assisted the incumbent, and made up a choir service on Sundays and holidays, when they used to sit in the stalls of the chancel. Blomefield's *Collect. Cantab.* pp. 199, 242, 245; Peck's *Desid. Curios.* pp. 229, 230; Rock's *Church of our Fathers*, Vol. I. p. 408; Vol. III. Part I. pp. 104, &c.

² Fleetwood's *Chron. Precios.* p. 112.

³ See also *Hist. of Barnwell Abbey*, p. 60, note 1; and *Append. p. 15.* Whaddon citatur ad Convocat. 10 Maii, 1468.

sine contradictione aliqua, placuit nobis omnibus Fratrem Johannem Whaddon, vicar. de Waterbeche, et Canon. Regularem dictæ Ecclesiæ in Priorem eligi.' Whaddon gave up this office 10th November, 1474, in favour of the above-named William Tebald, or Thibaud, who, having been both sub-prior and president, was, with the approbation of Edward IV., chosen to replace him on the 26th of the same month, and continued prior until his death 4th August, 1489. This prior may have been a relative of John Tebaud, alias Watyrbeche, the author, in 1410, according to one transcript, of a metrical translation into English of Boethius de Consolatione¹.

Ds *Thomas Gate*, canon regular of Barnwell, was instituted to Waterbeach 27th November, 1464, on the resignation of Whaddon.

Thomas Fookis, originally precentor of Barnwell, and chaplain, was on a jury, as vicar, 24th August, 1472.

Ds *Thomas Bernard*, canon regular of Barnwell, was instituted on the death of Fookis, 30th December, 1473. Regist. Gray, fol. 88. The vicarage of Waterbeach was then stated to be under the value of xij marks, and consequently discharged from paying tenths to the pope². Bernard had been presented in 1464 to the vicarage of Shepereth by the abbess and Benedictine nuns of Chateriz.

William Bowman, canon regular of Barnwell, became the next vicar, but the date of his institution is uncertain.

Fr. *Johes. Hemingford*, canon regular of Barnwell, was instituted 9th February, 1487-8, on the death of Bowman. Regist. Alcock, fol. 21.

Ds *William Segewicke*, canon regular of Barnwell, was vicar in 1509, but how much earlier we know not. 13 April,

¹ *Catalogue of Manuscripts, University Library, Cambridge*, Vol. III. p. 164.

² The first fruits and tenths had been taken from the pope by Act of Parliament 6 Hen. IV. [1404], but still continued to be paid. Gibson's *Codex*, Tom. II. p. 870.

6 Hen. VIII. [1515]: William Segewicke clre [clericus] surrendereth certain property in Waterbeech To the vse of John Segwike, Margaret his wife, and there heres. Segewicke was elected prior of the house of St Mary and St Nicholas, a monastery of Austin canons at Anglesey in the parish of Bodichesham (Bottisham), Cambridgeshire, 22nd December, 1515. The form of his election is in Bishop West's register, foll. 46, &c., and mention is made therein of Katerine—regina Angliæ, Franciæ, et domina Hiberniæ—(wife of Henry V.), as their foundress. This is contrary to Tanner¹, who ascribes the foundation to Henry I., and to Blomefield², who gives it to Richard de Clare; also, to Leland³, who has Bolebec (Bulbek) fundator, a member of a family, once of great note in these parts, and anciently lords of Swaffham Prior. Queen Katerine must have been a second foundress.

Ds *Johs. Warde*, canon regular of Barnwell, succeeded to the living on the resignation of Segewicke, and was instituted 21st July, 1516. John Rande and William Rolfe, two of his intended parishioners, had made some objection to him, which, before his institution by Bishop West, at Somersham, they readily, and of their own accord, withdrew. Warde's will bears date 2d May, 1522, and was proved 10th August following. Fr. Johs. Stokes, D.D.⁴, an Austyn friar, provincial of his order throughout England, prior of the house in Cambridge, and subsequently of the house in Norwich, was his sole executor. He therein orders his body to be buried in the chancel of the church: he bequeaths to and for the reconciling of the church, xxxiijs iiij^d: to the church vjs viij^d: to the Rode loft xxxiijs iiij^d: for to make iiij great tapers of iiij^{li} a pece for the Sepulcre this yere in Beche, xiijs iiij^d: the hangings of his bed to the saide

¹ *Notit. Monast.*

² *Collect. Cantab.* p. 34.

³ *Collect.* Vol. i. p. 57.

⁴ The same, to whom Matthew Parker, as dean of Stoke by Clare, wrote a long letter in 1539 or 1540. See his *Correspondence*, pp. 10, &c., and Messrs. Cooper's *Athen. Cantab.* p. 65.

Sepulchre: iij^s iiij^d to a taper before Seynt Kateryne in Beche, and the tithe woll of xxix shepe : xxvj^s viij^d to be spent at his buriale, and the same sum at his moneth daye.

The foregoing extract from Warde's will necessitates two observations. From a sum of money being left for the reconciling of the church we may allowably believe, that the inhabitants of Warde's late parish had, even during his incumbency, begun to separate themselves from Rome. Indeed, so early as 1492, they would appear to have become that way disposed, for the president of Denney summoned several in that year before their diocesan, Bishop Alcock, on account of their religious opinions. Thomas Bryce, in his poetic Register of the sufferers for the faith in Queen Mary's reign, under Apryll, 1556, writes :

When Jone Beche, widow, was done to deth,
We wishte for our Elizabeth.

Jone Beche lived at Tunbridge previous to her martyrdom, but, as the manor of Strode, which was no long way off, had belonged to the nuns minoresses of Denney until 1539, she and her husband may have been originally connected with that manor, and consequently with Waterbeach¹.

Every Good Friday the priest shut up in its pix a consecrated host, and put it, along with the cross, within a sepulchre, which invariably stood on the north side of the chancel. This holy-week sepulchre was almost always a slight and temporary erection of wood, hung with the best and richest palls of gold and silver cloth, or costly silks, which could be found, or had been bequeathed for the purpose. Sometimes, however, it was made lasting, and built of stone. On Easter morning the pix and cross were both taken out, and the priests went in procession about the church, singing a hymn of joy². The sepulchre was then removed for that year.

¹ Farr's *Select Poetry*, Vol. I. p. 166, Park. Soc.; Foxe's *Acts and Monuments*, Vol. III. p. 583, edit. 1684.

² Rock's *Church of our Fathers*, Vol. III. Part 2, pp. 240, 251;

Ds. *Johes Deping*, capellanus, was Warde's successor. 16 Hen. VIII. [1524]: John Rande alyened and sould certain messuages, &c. To the vse of John Depinge clre. He had been instituted, 11th November, 1520, to the vicarage of Guilden Morden, on the presentation of the prior and convent of Barnwell. 11th May, 1527, Tho. Cambridge, alias Rawlyn, prior¹, joined with the convent in assigning the next turn of the vicarage of Waterbeach to Rob. Cowper², M.A., and others, who presented, 6th March, 1536-7,

Fr. *Johs. Marcellis* or *Marcilius*, a German Protestant, who was, however, deprived of his preferment in Queen Mary's reign. He held the curacy of Long Stanton All Saints in 1556, and was living there the following year. Marcellis plastered and glazed a room in Corpus Christi College, where he seems to have resided for some time. He held property of the manor of Waterbeach cum Denney, to which on his death his son was admitted 4th November, 19 Eliz. [1577].

Ds *Hugh Browne*, canon, was presented 17th October, 1553, by Queen Mary, on the deprivation of Marcellis. Browne may have been one of the canons regular of Barnwell at the dissolution of that monastery. He had served the curacy of Girton from 1543 to 1547 for Thomas Hynde the rector. On the accession of Queen Elizabeth he was clearly removed, since 11th October, 1560,

Cranmer's *Works*, Vol. II. p. 158, Park. Soc.; Hooper's *Writings*, Vol. I. pp. 45, 46, Park. Soc.

¹ He is thought to have resigned that office, and to be the same person as Sir Thomas Rawlyn, chaplain, of Chesterton. Messrs. Cooper's *Athen. Cantab.* p. 82.

² Parker, on first entering the University of Cambridge, in 1521, studied partly in St Mary's hostel, where the present senate-house stands, partly in Corpus Christi College, under Robert Cowper. Edward VI. appointed Cowper one of his chaplains, but afterwards, on again becoming a Roman Catholic, he was collated by Bishop Bonner to the rectory of Hanwell. *Ibid.* p. 550.

Johannes Marre, clericus, was also presented by letters patent to the vicarage of Waterbeach¹. Marre was succeeded, before 20th April, 1564, by

William Wycket, clericus, who on that day witnessed, as vicar, the will of William Pamplyn, of this parish. He resigned almost immediately after. Wycket graduated B.A. in 1562.

Ds *Thomas Payne*, B.A. 1557, was instituted 3rd October, 1564, on the presentation of James Boltonne². In 1595 Queen Elizabeth 'havige present occasion to reinforce her forces in the realme of Irelande for her speciall service there,' the hundred of North Stow was appointed to provide three out of the forty men required from Cambridgeshire. Payne was therefore rated for his vicarage to contribute one pike furnished; and in 1609, on a similar occasion, jointly with the vicar of Barton, one pair of curols, with a pike furnished³.

Thomas Turner, fellow of St Peter's College, B.D. 1609, was collated 10th November, 1610, on the death of the last incumbent. He was appointed to the mastership of his College in 1615, and the next year proceeded to the degree of D.D. He may have been the son of another clergyman of the same name, who had also been fellow of St Peter's College, B.A. 1551-2, D.D. 1583, and who was afterwards a prebendary of Hereford. Turner was succeeded 18th November, 1612, by

Robert Kidson, fellow of St Peter's College, B.D. 1606, who became rector of Hardwick in 1615, and of Conington in 1617, all in the patronage of the bishop of Ely. On obtaining the living of Hardwick, he gave up Waterbeach.

James Wedderburne, M.A., succeeded to Waterbeach 26th August 1615, on the resignation of Kidson. He soon exchanged it with Walter Balcanquall for the vicarage of

¹ Rymer's *Fœdera*, Tom. xv. pp. 346, 588.

² See p. 29.

³ Curols, a curious mode of spelling quarrels, thick square darts shot from cross-bows. The pike furnished means a pike with its proper appendages. For some interesting information on this rating of the clergy, see *Correspondence of Parker*, pp. 345, &c.

Harston. Wedderburne was born in Dundee, but 'bread at Cambridge,' says Heylyn, and, like his successor, had travelled southward in consequence of the accession of James I. to the English throne. Launcelot Andrews, bishop of Ely, ordained him priest in 1614. Before Christmas 1626, he had been collated to a prebendal stall in the Cathedral of Ely. In 1631 we find him rector of Compton in Hampshire, and prebendary of Whitchurch in the diocese of Bath and Wells. In 1636 he was raised, by the procurement of Archbishop Laud, from being professor of divinity at St Andrews, to the bishopric of Dunblane. Being, however, deprived and excommunicated by the Assembly at Glasgow in 1638, he went back to England, and on his death the following year was buried in Canterbury Cathedral¹. His epitaph states him to have been 'antiquæ probitatis et fidei, magnumque ob excellentem doctrinam patriæ suæ ornamentum.'

Walter Balcanquall, B.D. 1616, was collated, by exchange with Wedderburne, 8th March 1616-7. In 1611 he had been chosen fellow of Pembroke College. Launcelot Andrews ordained him deacon in 1612, and priest in 1614. Balcanquall became vicar of Harston in 1615. He resigned Waterbeach in 1618, and, no doubt, that he might be at liberty to proceed to the synod of Dort, at which he had been appointed to represent the Kirk of Scotland. He was much about the court both of James I. and Charles I. He died at Chirk castle, Denbighshire, in 1645². The epitaph to his

¹ Baker's *MSS.* Vol. xxviii. p. 146; Keith's *Scottish Bishops*, p. 182; Heylyn's *Life of Laud*, p. 323, edit. 1668.

² Hawes and Loder's *History of Framlingham*, p. 246. Several of Balcanquall's letters, written from Dort to Sir Dudley Carlton, English ambassador at the Hague, are appended to the *Golden Remains of the ever-memorable Mr John Hales, of Eton College*. See also *Archæologia*, Vol. xii. pp. 122, &c.; Birch's *Court and Times of James I.* Vol. ii. pp. 57, 116, 255, 394, 489, Edit. 1848; Prynne's *Canterburie's Doome*, p. 159; Brydges' *Restitut.* Vol. iii. p. 68; and Lloyd's *Memoirs*, p. 523.

memory in the parish-church of Chirk fully details his career after leaving Waterbeach:—M. S. Hic situs est vir eximius Gualterus Balanquallus S.S. Theologiæ Professor, qui, e Scotia oriundus, ob singularem eruditionem Aulæ Pembrochianæ in Academia Cantabrigiensi socius factus est; et inter Theologos Britannos Synodo Dordracensi interfuit:—mox regiæ majestati a sacris, Xenodochii Sabaudiensis Londini præpositus, et Decanus, primo Roffensis [1624], dein Dunelmensis [1639], omnia hæc officia, sive dignitates, magnis virtutibus ornavit. Tum vero in Scotianæ rebellionis arcanis motibus observandis atque detegendis solertissime versatus, et in rebellionem Anglicana Regi maxime fidus, obsidione Eboraci liberatus in has oras se contulit, ubi perhumaniter exceptus, sed ab hostibus cupidissime quæsitus et exturbatus, hiemali tempestate mire sæviante, ad tutelam castelli in proximo confugit, et morbo ex infesti itineris tædio correptus, ipso die Nativitatis Christi ad Dominum migravit M.DC.XLV.

Alexander Pistor, of Emmanuel College, M.A. 1593, was made vicar of Waterbeach 20th April, 1618, on the resignation of Balcanquall. He was shortly afterwards promoted by Launcelot Andrews to the rectory of Brettenham, in the diocese of Norwich, and took the degree of D.D. in 1622. He was, probably, father of Alexander Pistor of Queens' College, B.A. 1623-4, and, in 1639, rector of Beighton, Suffolk.

Edmund White, a native of Cambridgeshire, of Corpus Christi College, B.A. 1609, and domestic chaplain to Launcelot Andrews, succeeded Pistor 15th June, 1618, but very soon exchanged Waterbeach for the vicarage of Swaffham Prior, St Cyriac. The two parishes of Swaffham Prior, whose churches, dedicated to St Mary and St Cyriac, both stand in the same churchyard, were only consolidated by Act of Parliament in 1667. The church of St Mary is now a ruin.

Nicholas Barrette, of Queens' College, but who migrated to St Catharine's College, M.A. 1582, was collated 21st September, 1618, by exchange with White. How long he held the

living, or who succeeded him, cannot be learnt by reason of the imperfection of the bishop of Ely's registers.

John Johnson, B.A. 1612, fellow of Pembroke College, was vicar in 1635, or thereabouts. He was a benefactor to the library of his college.

William Sayer, vicar, signed the terrier of the glebe-lands 19th November, 1638, and again, 4th May, 1661. The Parliamentary survey, too, of 1649, recognizes him as vicar. Sayer was buried at Waterbeach 8th December, 1677. He was a native of Norfolk, and took his B.A. degree at Corpus Christi College in 1623. On his death

Francis Roper, B.D. 1673, of the county of Durham, and fellow of St John's College, (in which he founded an exhibition,) was collated, 22nd January, 1677-8, by Bishop Gunning, to this vicarage. Womock, bishop of St David's, died 12th March, 1685-6, in whose room he became a prebendary of Ely Cathedral, and resigned Waterbeach. The following year Roper was presented to the rectory of Northwold in the county of Norfolk. He lost both his preferments in 1690 by deprivation, for refusing to take the oaths to the new government. He was buried, 13th April, 1719, in the chapel of his college. In Ellis' Letters¹ are two written to Roper giving an account of the death of Charles II. and James II. On his resignation

Robert Jenkin was collated to Waterbeach, 29th April, 1686, by Bishop Turner, and served the living from college. He was born at Minster in the isle of Thanet, January, 1656, educated at the King's school, Canterbury, and admitted sub-sizar of St John's college, 1674, under the tuition of his predecessor in the living, Mr Roper. He obtained a fellowship in 1681, and was soon afterwards ordained by Lake, bishop of Chichester, who made him his chaplain, and in 1688 collated him to the precentorship of his cathedral. Refusing with his patron to take the new oaths of allegiance required by Act of Parliament,

¹ First Series, Vol. III. pp. 333, 353. See the *Life of Ambrose Bonwicke* throughout; and Nichols' *Literary Anec.*, Vol. IV. p. 240, note.

24th April, 1689, he was deprived of both his precentorship, and his living. He published in 1688, *An Historical Examination of the Authority of General Councils*, in quarto: also, in 1690, *A Defence of the Profession made upon his death-bed by Dr John Lake, bishop of Chichester, concerning Passive Obedience, and the new Oaths*. After his deprivation he returned to college.

Having become domestic chaplain to the Earl of Exeter in 1691, he again quitted Cambridge, and lived at Burleigh House for several years. Jenkin published in 1698, *The Reasonableness and Certainty of the Christian Religion*, in two volumes octavo, dedicated to his patron. In 1702, he put out an English translation of Tillemont's *Life of Apollonius Tyaneus*: likewise, *A brief Confutation of the Pretences against Natural and Revealed Religion*: in 1707, *Defensio S. Augustini adversus Johannis Phereponi in ejus opera Animadversiones*; and in 1709, *Remarks on four books lately published, viz. Basnage's History of the Jews, Whiston's Eight Sermons, Locke's Paraphrase and Notes on St Paul's Epistles, and Le Clerc's Bibliothèque Choisie*¹. He was made chaplain to Viscount Weymouth about 1709, in which year he proceeded to the degree of D.D., and resided with his new patron at Long Leate in Wiltshire.

Jenkin, having first taken the oaths to Queen Anne, became in 1711, by the death of Dr Gower, both master of his college², and Lady Margaret's professor of Divinity. His inaugural speech, as professor, is in Baker's MSS.³, with a notice respecting his *Prælectiones de Potestate Ecclesiastica, &c.* Upon the accession of George I. an Act was passed, which obliged all those, who held preferment worth £5 a year, to swear allegiance to the sovereign. Jenkin not only complied with this Act himself, but proceeded, 20th January, 1716-7, to eject twenty-two of his fellows, who refused to follow his example,

¹ We have some Latin verses of his in *Hymenceus Cantabrig.* 1683, and *Academ. Cantabrig. Affectus*, 1684.

² See *Life of Ambrose Bonwicke*, pp. 32-36, edit. 1846.

³ Vol. xxxviii. pp. 339, &c.

and among them the Rev. Thomas Baker, the learned antiquary. His health having begun to give way, he was removed to the residence of his brother Henry, (late fellow of Pembroke College,) vicar of Tilney, and rector of South Runcton, in Norfolk, at which latter village he died, 7th April, 1727¹. He was buried in the chancel of Holme chapel, a parish attached to South Runcton, under a small stone in the middle of the area; and a mural monument was put up there to his memory.

William Silvertop, of Sidney Sussex College, B.A. 1682, was presented, 23rd October, 1690, by William III. on the deprivation of Jenkin, being then a minor canon of Ely Cathedral, and master of the Grammar, or King's, School there, to which he left his library. William III. presented this turn, because neither bishop of Ely, nor archbishop of Canterbury, existed, Turner and Sandford having been both deprived as nonjurors, and their successors, Patrick and Tillotson, not yet consecrated. Silvertop died 4th April, 1699, at the age of 38 years, and was buried in the south transept of Ely Cathedral. On a slab of black marble is the following eulogium of him:—*Vir utpote qui facili felicique ingenio se omnibus gratum carumque reddidit; cum vero semper impense cavebat, ne vel Dei honorem, vel hominis famam, linguæ petulantia læderet, et Deus et homo (uti spes est) illo die beatum prædicabunt.*

Nicolas de Raphelis, a foreigner, was collated, 12th May, 1699, by Bishop Patrick. He was, of course, a French Protestant priest, who had taken refuge in England on account of the revocation, in 1685, of the Edict of Nantes by Louis XIV. Raphelis was buried at Great St Mary's, Cambridge, 2nd February, 1720-21, and succeeded on the same day by

John F. Cory, of Corpus Christi College, M.A. 1713. Cory in 1722 obtained a licence of non-residence from Bishop Fleetwood, his patron, he being at that time one of the conducts, or chaplains, of King's College. He was the son of John Cory, B.D., rector of Landbeach, and, in 1727, had his deceased

¹ His will may be seen in Baker's *MSS.* Vol. xxxii. p. 551; and more about him in Nichols' *Literary Anecdotes*, Vol. iv. pp. 240, &c.

father's vicarage of Impington. He died at the beginning of April, 1745¹.

John Warren, of Caius College, M.A. 1743, was collated, 25th April, 1745. He resigned Waterbeach almost directly for the vicarage of Linton, which he afterwards quitted for the rectories of West Harling in Norfolk, and Little Saxham in Suffolk. On the cession of Warren, Bishop Butts gave this living, 18th January, 1745-6, to his chaplain,

Henry Burrough, fellow of St Catharine's College, B.A. 1742, whom he soon made perpetual curate of Wilburton, in the Isle of Ely, and rector of Little Gransden in Huntingdonshire. Wilburton was properly in the gift of the archdeacon of Ely; but, as Bishop Butts and Dr Eyton, the then archdeacon, were brothers-in-law², we may conceive some private arrangement to have been made between them. Burrough was promoted to the vicarage of Wisbech in 1749; and became a magistrate for the Isle. He took the degree of LL.D.; and was made a prebendary of Peterborough. He published Lectures on the Church Catechism, Confirmation, and the Nature and Obligation of Religious Vows. This book was reprinted in 1773. It is dedicated simply to the inhabitants of Wilburton, Little Gransden, and Wisbech, no notice being taken of Waterbeach, probably, because he had never resided here, and, consequently, had no personal connexion with his parishioners. On Burrough's resignation, Bishop Gooch gave Waterbeach, 12th February, 1749-50, to

Roger Sturgeon, late fellow of Caius College, M.A. 1744, who possessed the rectory of Hardmead in Buckinghamshire, and was master of the Perse Free Grammar School, in Cambridge. He died 13th April, 1759, was buried in St Edward's church, Cambridge, and succeeded, 2nd August, 1759, by

Robert Masters, B.D. 1746, formerly fellow of Corpus Christi

¹ See p. 45.

² Bentham and Stevenson's *Hist. of Ely Cath.*, Vol. i. pp. 271, 280.

College, celebrated for his antiquarian knowledge, and for the history of his own college in quarto, which he had published in 1753. He had then been for three years rector of Landbeach, the usual place of his abode, and gave up for Waterbeach, 'not to his advantage in regard to revenue, but on account of its nearness and convenience,' the vicarage of Linton, to which he had been collated without solicitation, only a few months before, by his old friend and patron, Bishop Mawson. Mr Masters afterwards wished to resign Waterbeach to his son, 'who had then no settled maintenance,' and Bishop Yorke being so obliging as to indulge him, he did resign it, 26th May, 1784. This was, he says, the only reward he ever received at the bishop's hands, out of his superabundant patronage, for fourteen¹ years' service, [as one of the beneficed clergymen of the diocese,] for so greatly improving the value of the collation², for repairing and enlarging the house at no small expence, [upwards of £200,] and for purchasing [at the price of £60] a freehold estate with a house, barn, close [of half an acre], and right of common, contiguous to the vicarage, for the enlargement of its site, which property he made over to the vicarage in 1784, and caused his gift to be recorded in the court of chancery, to render it irrevocable. Mr Masters was deputy to the chancellor of the diocese, William Compton, Esq. LL.D., of Caius College, who resided abroad; he died 5th July, 1797, aged 84 years, and was buried at Landbeach. A portrait of him exists, engraved by Facius from a drawing by the Rev. Thomas Kerich, formerly librarian to the University of Cambridge³.

¹ Mr Masters wrote this in 1795, and Dr Yorke had been made bishop of Ely in 1781. He wanted, on his son's death the previous year, to be again collated to Waterbeach, of which, during the vacancy, he was sequestrator.

² See pp. 32, 33.

³ See an account of Mr Masters and his writings in Nichols' *Literary Anecdotes*, Vol. i. pp. 687, 688; and Vol. iii. pp. 479, &c. See also Warburton's *Life of Horace Walpole*, Vol. ii. pp. 412, 426.

William Masters, who graduated at Corpus Christi College, B.A. 1780, and who had been curate of Waterbeach since the middle of 1782, was, on his father's resignation, collated to the vicarage, 28th May, 1784. He died 5th July, 1794, and, like his father, was buried at Landbeach.

William Williams, of Magdalen College, B.A. 1768, became vicar 4th September, 1794. He had been chaplain to the English Factory at Rotterdam. He died 13th October, 1812; was buried in the chancel of his church, and is the only vicar of whom any record at all remains¹. Bishop Sparke then collated, 5th November, 1812,

John Henry Michell, late fellow of King's College, B.A. 1782. He was an accomplished classical scholar, and had been tutor of his college, which he left on being presented by the society, in 1803, to the rectory of Buckland in Hertfordshire, on which he constantly resided. In 1821 he obtained the rectory of Kelshall, also in Hertfordshire, from his former patron, Bishop Sparke, when he vacated this living. Mr Michell died at Buckland in 1844. He was succeeded, on his resignation, by

Henry Fardell, who was educated at St John's College, B.A. 1817, and collated to Waterbeach 12th December, 1821. He married one of the daughters of Dr Sparke, bishop of Ely, and obtained in 1819 a prebendal stall in that cathedral, to which was added, in 1830, the vicarage of Wisbech. He died 25th March, 1854, when Bishop Turton, 8th September following, collated

William Keatinge Clay, of Jesus College, B.D. 1834. He had been elected a minor canon of Ely Cathedral in 1837, and was presented to the perpetual curacy of the Holy Trinity, Ely, in 1842, both which preferments he resigned on obtaining the vicarage of Waterbeach. Mr Clay published several works, whilst residing at Ely:—Explanatory Notes on the Prayer-

¹ See p. 44.

Book Version of the Psalms, 1839: The Book of Common Prayer Illustrated, 1841: Liturgies, and Occasional Forms of Prayer, set forth in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, 1847: An Historical Sketch of the Prayer Book, 1849: Private Prayers put forth by authority during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, 1851; together with several things of less importance, but all connected with the same important branch of theological knowledge.

THE CHARITIES.

THE Charities of Waterbeach are, and always have been, considerable. The manuscript book, containing the Court Rolls of the manor of Waterbeach cum Denney, has several entries respecting property, either surrendered to the vse of the towne of Waterbeach, or already belonging to it, in the latter part of the sixteenth century. The most conspicuous are connected with a rent-charge of x^{li} per annum, agreed, 15 Eliz. [1573], to be paid by Robert Banckes to the vicar of Waterbeech, to the vse of the towne for ever, in return for divers landes surrendered to him and his heires, he allowing the inhabitants foote pathes, and common of pasture, over Thurlebanes: likewise, with another rent-charge of tenne shillinges, being a composition, agreed, a few months later, to be paid to the vicar and feoffees, by the same Robert Banckes, his heires and assignes, for their common of pasture in and upon some land afterwards, and still, called the Pieces¹, (because, apparently, it once consisted of more than one field,) to the north east of the village, comprising sixteen² acres, then in his tenure; and also with a grant by Queen Elizabeth, as lady of the manor, in 1577, of one

¹ The houses and gardens of Richard Read, William Todd, and Jonathan Frohock, now occupy three of its corners.

² The inclosure award mentions land amounting to near upon nineteen acres under the designation of 'The Pieces.'

smythes forge, five and a half acres of meadow, and six acres of arable land.

John Yaxley was an alderman of Cambridge, and with Robert Wallis¹, another alderman, one of the burgesses² of that corporation in parliament from 1597 to 1611. He was moreover an attorney, and steward for the crown of the manor, though he held the courts for the most part by deputy. He does not appear to have been entirely faithful in his stewardship, any more than his deputy, Robert Spicer. For, under the date of 3rd September, 1610, we perceive that Roger Woodall, Mark Charlton, and Richard Bankes, of Waterbeach, were examined concerning some misdemeanors of John Yaxley, steward of the manor; whilst on the 11th, the Earl of Salisbury, lord high treasurer, wrote to Sir Henry Fanshaw, attorney-general, to draw a commission for inquiring into the same misdemeanors, as well as into those of the deputy steward³.

By will, proved at Doctors' Commons in 1626, Yaxley bequeathed the sum of twelve pounds per annum, issuing out of a copyhold estate opposite Waterbeach church, to six poor widows, ten shillings a quarter to each, who should inhabit a hospital or almshouses, which he left very precise directions for erecting. These almshouses were to be built at his cost, within two years after his decease, upon a land of his lying next a ditch near the town's end leading towards Cambridge, to contain in length altogether six score feet, every almshouse to consist of two nether rooms, to be of brick, and covered with tile, and to have a brick wall before them nine feet high⁴.

The above-mentioned estate was left by Yaxley to his

¹ For some account of his violent doings see Cooper's *Annals of Cambridge*, Vol. I. pp. 557, 582, &c.

² Their wages were fixed at four shillings each a day during the continuance of the sitting of Parliament. *Ibid.* p. 617.

³ Green's *Calend. of State Papers*, pp. 631, 632.

⁴ This brick wall has lately given place to a wooden paling, and a quickset hedge, as long ago, the covering of tile, if it ever existed, did to one of thatch.

daughter Anne, wife of John Robson¹ of Lynn, whom he appointed executor. Since he did not give in his will a particular description of the estate meant, we may suppose him to have done so in the deed, to which he there frequently refers, and which has for many years been lost. Some copyhold lands, worth one hundred pounds and upwards per annum, were charged by Robson, to whom they belonged, with the payment of the said annuity of twelve pounds; and these lands, when they had passed into other hands, were subsequently acknowledged to be burthened with such an annuity, under the handwriting of Thomas Bacon, Esq.², to whom they had then been conveyed. This annuity has been constantly kept up by the owners of the property, and is at present paid by Edward Mason, Esq., who possesses, at least, a portion of it; so that the six poor widows have invariably received their quarterages according to Yaxley's wishes and directions.

Robson was so far concerned in the erection of the almshouses, that they have usually gone under his name, as the founder, to the no small prejudice of Yaxley, his father-in-law, the real founder. In like manner, the annuity of twelve pounds has sometimes been improperly called Robson's charity.

A very handsome altar-tomb existed in the old chancel, against the south-east wall, under which Yaxley was said by tradition to have been buried, but, both the inscription and arms having become totally obliterated, it was taken away towards the latter end of the last century to make room for the communicants; and the upper stone, a grey marble slab, placed, where it stood, on the floor. That slab, of Purbeck

¹ The freehold meadow, in which the Baptist meeting-house stands, is known by the name of Robson's close.

² Thomas Bacon, in his own name of Thomas Sclater, or Slaughter, was admitted to land held of the manor of Waterbeach cum Denney, 12 July, 1704. He was not the proprietor of it, he was only trustee, appointed by the will of Josiah Bacon, dated 4th October, 1703, and guardian of his two young relatives, Josiah Bacon, and Elizabeth Bacon; which latter he afterwards married, and took her name.

marble, lies now within the altar-rails, and nearly in its original position.

Henry Smyth, Esq., of St Olave's, Silver-street, a salter and alderman of London, by deeds dated 23rd October, 17 Jac. I. [1619], and 26th January, 2 Carol. I. [1627]; also, by will dated 20th April, 1627, and proved 23rd January¹ following, dedicated to charitable uses a very large real and personal estate, of which he constituted the governors of Christ's Hospital, and their successors, feoffees. With some part of this property freehold land was purchased at Stoughton, three miles from Leicester, then of the value of two hundred and twenty pounds per annum. By the deed of apportionment, dated 20th December, 1641, the clear income of the Stoughton estate, agreeably with the intentions of the donor, was ordered to be divided in certain proportions amongst twenty parishes, situated in divers parts of the kingdom. The sum assigned to each was afterwards to be distributed by the churchwardens and overseers of that parish, (having first become bound in double the value of such yearly receipt to the parson or vicar of the said parish,) to and for the relief of aged, poor, or infirm people; married persons having more children, born in lawful wedlock, than their labours could maintain; poor orphans; such poor people as kept themselves and families to work, and put forth their children to be apprentices at the age of fifteen years.

In the number of these twenty parishes², Waterbeach was included. The first annual payment amounted to £6. 13s. 4d.

¹ Henry Smyth died 3rd January, 1627-8, and was buried at Wandsworth, where he had been born. See a long account of him in Dale's *Hist. of Harwich and Dovercourt*, pp. 87, &c.; also, Morant's *Hist. of Essex*, Vol. i. p. 399.

² Twenty-one parishes now partake of the proceeds of the Stoughton estate: Andover, Broad Hinton, Bedworth, Bledlow, Dovercourt, East Grinstead, East Dereham, Ramsey (Essex), Reigate, St John Bedwardine, Worcester, Shapwick (Dorsetshire), St John's and St Michael's, Chester, St Giles' Cripplegate, St Botulph's Aldersgate,

In 1780 the charity property was once more re-let, after some proceedings in Chancery, in which the vicar of Waterbeach bore a part. It now fetches six hundred and thirty pounds per annum, wherefore the yearly allowances to the several parishes are almost trebled, our parish having received £18.4s.6d. in 1856.

This annuity comes indeed from the property left by Mr Smyth, but the real benefactor to Waterbeach was *Sir George Whitmore, Knt.*, one of Mr Smyth's executors and feoffees. For, being at the time owner of the Denney Abbey estate, he made Waterbeach a recipient of his friend's bounty, just as, having purchased from the crown, in 1611, the manor of Dovercourt, he inserted Dovercourt in the same list of parishes. George Whitmore was born at Apley, or Apleby, in Shropshire, and succeeded his father as a haberdasher in London: he became Lord Mayor of that city at Michaelmas 1631, and was knighted by Charles I. at Greenwich, May 27th, 1632. He was a most liberal man, a large contributor, too, both to the repairs of old St Paul's Cathedral, which were begun in his mayoralty, and to the repairs of other churches. Many orthodox ministers, and distressed gentlemen, were his pensioners, whilst he lived, and more found their names among his legatees, when he died.

Sir George Whitmore was a great support to, and a sufferer for, the royal cause; being, however, very aged, he could, as he said, serve his majesty only with his purse, which he did to the extent of many thousand pounds. He was summoned, 23rd December, 1642, to attend the House of Commons: he appeared, but when a loan of three thousand pounds, to be repaid with interest, was demanded of him, on the security of the public faith, he replied, that he had no money, could receive no rents, and desired to be excused from lending any monies. In consequence of his refusal he was put into confinement. The next notice of him is dated 12th September,

and St Sepulchre's, London, Thetford (Norfolk), Waterbeach, Wandsworth, Warminster, and Westbury (Wilts). Waterbeach has one thirty-third of the net rent.

1643, and mentions, that he and others were to be removed from the ship called the *Hopeful Luke*, then riding in the road of Yarmouth, to Winchester House, there to be kept in safe custody till the pleasure of the House be further known. 9th March, 1643-4, a petition from Sir George Whitmore, a prisoner in Winchester House, was presented; and it was ordered, that it be referred to the committee of examinations, in regard that Winton House was full of sickness, to remove him to some other prison clearer and freer from sickness. Probably, he was then transferred to Crosby House, where we know him to have been confined. In the seventh Report of the Deputy Keeper of the Records¹ occurs this entry: July, 1650. The commissioners for sale of crown-lands acknowledge the claim of Mr Walter Knight to the manor of [Waterbeach cum] Denney², the reversion being sold to the city of London. Can it be, that Sir George Whitmore was not only imprisoned, but had his property taken away from him? If so, he or his heir soon regained it, since we find his son afterwards in possession of the Denney Abbey estate. He died 12th December, 1654, and was buried at London. Anthony Farindon, who officiated at St Mary Magdalene's, Milk-street, preached his funeral sermon.

A portrait of him hangs in the hall of the Haberdashers' Company; he is represented having on a red gown with a quilled ruff, and a gold chain³. He lived at Balmes or Baunes house, in the parish of St John, Hackney, which, though now an asylum for lunatics, is still styled Sir George Whitmore's house. Charles I. on his return from Scotland in 1641, was met here by

¹ Append. Vol. II. p. 227.

² By the manor of [Waterbeach cum] Denney must be meant the whole Denney Abbey estate.

³ Lloyd's *Memoires*, p. 630; Ellis' *Hist. of Shoreditch*, pp. 129, &c.; Robinson's *Hist. of Hackney*, Vol. I. pp. 154, &c.; *Journals of the House of Commons*, Vol. II. pp. 900, 901; Vol. III. pp. 237, 422; Lewis' *Hist. of Islington*, p. 459; Pepys' *Diary*, Vol. II. p. 377, edit. 1848; Farindon's *Sermons*, Vol. II. pp. 189, &c. edit. 1849. Guillim gives Sir George Whitmore's arms, p. 314, edit. 1660.

the Lord Mayor and the other civic authorities, by the Queen also, and the royal family, and conducted into the city with great state. William Whitmore, Sir George's eldest son and heir, of whose doings, in connexion with the tithes of the Denney Abbey estate, we have before read, removed to Balmes on his father's death. Seemingly, he is the person complained of in 1669 to the House of Commons for a breach of privilege. He died August, 1678, and was buried at Ramsey in Essex. He also left a son, William, who was accidentally killed, August, 1684, by a pistol in his own chariot, as he was returning from Epsom, being under age, and, though married, without offspring.

Margery Banks, widow, by will dated 2nd March, 1632-3, bequeathed to the poor of the parish of Waterbeach the sum of ten pounds, to be laid out in lands for the poor inhabitants of the said town for ever. Accordingly, three acres of land in Chittering, commonly called Old Town Fen, were purchased with the above sum. At the Inquisition about charities held in 1729, and which will be more particularly mentioned hereafter, this land was found to be let for one pound five shillings per annum, which money was ordered to be applied in accordance with the terms of Mrs Banks' will.

Mrs *Grace Clarke*, daughter of Edward or Edmund Clarke and Grace his wife, by will bearing date 23rd May, 1687, gave one hundred pounds to the use of the poor of Waterbeach, to be laid out at interest by the churchwardens and overseers at that time in office. The proceeds arising therefrom were to be employed in putting to school six poor children (whose friends were not able to pay for their schooling), until they could read well in the Bible; then to remove them, and replace them by others, as long as the world endured¹; the overplus of the interest, after paying for the schooling, being given to such poor

¹ Mr William Austin of Trumpington, by will dated 1679, bequeathed fourteene acres of arable land in Bottisham to put out four of y^e poorest children to scoole, borne in y^e towne of Trumpington, untill they could read a chapter in y^e Holy Bible perfectly, and then

people on St Thomas' Day, as received no collection, and to no other. The said sum of one hundred pounds was expended in the purchase of ten acres of land in Chittering, which in 1729 produced five pounds per annum. Three pounds twelve shillings of this money were directed to be paid yearly for schooling, and the remainder to be divided among the poor, as above appointed. Grace Clarke died 25th May, 1687, aged thirty-three years, and was buried two days after: her gravestone is still in existence.

Mrs *Dorothy Stane*¹, widow, gave and bequeathed a house and common, with a close and three acres of land in Chittering, being copyhold; also, a house and half a common, and a ground containing six acres, at Bottisham, being freehold, (of the annual value altogether, in 1729, of ten pounds,) for the education of poor children in the school of the parish of Waterbeach. She was the widow of William Stane, M.D., and daughter of Mr William Knight, farmer of the Denney Abbey estate: buried here 25th July, 1688.

Mrs *Jane Brigham*, of the parish of St Martin in the Fields, in the county of Middlesex, widow, gave by will dated 31st May, 1705, to the six poor widows, and their successors for ever, that were; or should be, placed in the hospital or almshouses erected and endowed by Mr Robson², at Waterbeach, in the county of Cambridge, one annuity or yearly rent-charge of fifteen pounds, freed and discharged of and from the payment of all, and all manner of, parliamentary and other taxes, charges, impositions,

a Bible given them and they dismiss, and others of y^e said towne to proceed as aforesaid. *Churches of Cambridgeshire*, p. 41. Cambridge Cam. Soc.

¹ Elizabeth Knight, who, in 1647, left money for the foundation of the almshouses at the end of Jesus Lane, Cambridge, (in imitation, probably, of those newly erected in Waterbeach,) was a sister of hers. Cooper's *Annals of Cambridge*, Vol. III. pp. 412, 413. This Elizabeth Knight is commonly said to be a daughter of Ann Hobson; but, since Ann Hobson married William Knight, a brother of Mrs Stane, she was rather her sister-in-law. *Ibid.* p. 233, note 9.

² See p. 74.

outgoings, and deductions whatsoever; and to be for ever hereafter issuing, and going forth, and out of, all those messuages, houses, or hereditaments, with their appurtenances, which she held in fee-farm of the Duke of Bedford, at the yearly rent of thirty shillings, situate and being in and near Chandois-street, Convent-garden; and to be yearly paid and divided to and amongst the said six poor widows, and their successors for ever, share and share alike, at the feast-days of the birth of our Lord God, and the nativity of St John the Baptist, by even and equal portions, the first day of payment to begin, and to be made, at whichever of the said feasts should next happen after one year and a half after her decease. And, in case the same should not be paid within three months after it became due, the said six poor widows, their successors, or assigns, were to take a distress upon the aforesaid estate, or any part thereof. Mrs Brigham died 7th February, 1715-6, and her will was proved in the court of the archdeaconry of Middlesex, by James Andrews, clerk, one of the executors named in the said will, on the 23rd day of the same month.

Mrs Brigham also left an annuity of the same amount, and issuing out of the same estate, to the rector and churchwardens of the parish of Cottenham, where her late husband, Mr John Brigham¹, was born, for apprenticing to such trades and employments, as the rector and churchwardens should approve of, two or more children of that parish, whose friends or parents, being inhabitants of the said parish, and not receiving alms, were unable themselves to apprentice them.

There were several other pieces and parcels of land in Waterbeach given, devised, or conveyed, by persons, whose names, either through length of time, or intentionally, had not been transmitted down, nor was it known for what particular purposes the said lands had been so given. Nevertheless, it had been always well understood by the inhabitants, that they were

¹ He had been joint tenant of the Denney Abbey estate with another farmer named Kettle.

designed by the donors thereof for charitable uses, and the rents and profits had been for the most part thus applied by the churchwardens for the time being. These pieces and parcels of land, described in a terrier belonging to the parish, which was given in to the commissioners of 1729, and which Mr Masters copied into the second oldest register book, amounted to twenty acres.

An Inquisition respecting lands, money, &c. given to charitable uses, was held at Cambridge, 15th October, 1729, in pursuance of an Act of Parliament, passed 27th October, 43 Eliz. [1601]. The rents belonging to all the above Charities were ordered to be paid according to the directions given in the respective wills. Out of the proceeds of the lands, whose donors were unknown, five pounds per annum were to be laid out in firing, and distributed 4th November yearly amongst such persons as took no collection. Twenty pounds more were to be disposed of in the manner following: to wit, ten pounds to be given yearly on 4th November, and ten pounds on 2nd February, to poor inhabitants of the said town receiving no collection. And the further sum of five pounds was to be spent in buying clothes for the poor people of the said parish, who most commonly frequented the Established Church; whilst the residue of the rents and profits was to be applied towards the necessary repairs of the said church. And, for the better conducting of this business, seven trustees were appointed, who were ordered to keep a book, in which to enter their receipts and disbursements: to audit and pass their accounts on 24th June yearly, at such time and place as should be appointed the preceding year, and to deliver a true copy thereof to the Chairman at the next general Quarter Sessions, to be kept safe by the Clerk of the Peace, who should be allowed two shillings and sixpence for its safe custody, that the same might be at any time inspected. It was further ordered, that, whenever the trustees were by death reduced to two, those two survivors should transfer, surrender, and convey over, the freehold and copyhold estates to

the use of seven other honest and substantial persons, inhabitants of the said town of Waterbeach¹, upon the like trusts. Lastly, no lease of the said premises, or of any of them, was to be made, but for the true yearly value, or the best reserved rent that could be got, and not to exceed twenty-one years.

The decree was signed by the Commissioners², William Nicolls, D.D., William Greaves, Esq., Peter Needham, D.D., Joseph Kettle, Esq., and Hoste Archer, Esq., the day and year before written.

The parish of Waterbeach was inclosed early in the present century. By the award of the commissioners certain allotments were made in lieu of the open-field lands, and rights of common, but without the special appropriation of any part of them to the different charities contained in the decree of 1729. In fact, a general charity trust was then constituted, the whole property

¹ Of the seven inhabitants of Waterbeach, who, 8th April, 1836, were admitted to the copyhold portion of the property, two have since died: the present Trust consists of Messrs. Hall, Mason, Wiles, James Witt, and Youngman senior.

² Dr Nicolls, M.A. 1718, fellow and president of Magdalene College, was, in 1729, made vicar of St Giles', Cripplegate. William Greaves, M.A. 1724, was fellow of Clare College, and Commissary of the University: he lived at Fulbourn, established annual prizes at Clare and Trinity Colleges for the best dissertation on the Conduct and Character of William III., and is now represented by the Townley family, who, as relatives, inherited his property. Dr Needham, B.A. 1696, was a fellow of St John's College, rector successively of Ovington in Norfolk, and Conington in Cambridgeshire, and editor of several classical works. He died in 1731, leaving a widow, who was a great benefactress to the city of Ely. Joseph Kettle resided at Cambridge, was connected with the Bedford Level Corporation, and Chairman of the county Quarter Sessions. About 1736 he erected a play-house in Cambridge, whereupon the University obtained an Act of Parliament rendering illegal theatrical performances in and near that town. Hoste Archer was lord of the manors of St Andrew and St Etheldreda in Histon, and one of the treasurers for Cambridge 1737-8. Nichols' *Literary Anecdotes*, Vol. iv. p. 271; Vol. viii. pp. 207, 418, 419, 581; Hartshorne's *Book Rarities of Cambridge*, p. 353; Cooper's *Annals of Cambridge*, Vol. iv. pp. 227, 231, 252, 254; Monk's *Life of Bentley*, Vol. i. p. 226; Vol. ii. p. 272, edit. 1833; Messrs. Lysons' *Cambridgeshire*, p. 214.

of which in Waterbeach consisted of the said allotments, and two old inclosures, one of 4*a.* 0*r.* 35*p.*, called the Town, or Willow, holt, and another of 1*a.* 0*r.* 24*p.* near the green, on which the National school, and the schoolhouse stand. The allotments were 3*a.* 0*r.* 24*p.* in Mill-field, and 62*a.* 2*r.* 39*p.* in Chittering fen, both, together with the old inclosures, copyhold. Besides the above two pieces, and the old inclosures, the charity trustees held 12*a.* 0*r.* 28*p.* of freehold land in the parish of Bottisham, with a farm-house, and nearly another acre of land, also freehold. The Town-holt was cut through in 1845 for the Eastern Counties Railway, and compensation made, on account of the loss and severance, in land adjoining the ballast holes.

So that the charities of all kinds belonging to this parish now comprise rather more than 71 acres of copyhold land in Waterbeach, and 12*a.* 3*r.* 36*p.* of freehold land in Bottisham, bringing in £177.7*s.* 6*d.* a year¹, and in the hands of the trustees before referred to: 18*a.* 2*r.* 18*p.* of freehold land in Chittering fen², let for £32.7*s.* 6*d.* a year, being the turbary land, or a compensation allotted to the poor inhabitants, at the time of the inclosure, for the right of digging turf in Joist fen³, in the hands of the vicar, churchwardens, and overseers of the poor; with the annuities of Mr Yaxley, Mr Smyth, and Mrs Brigham. The gross annual income of these several charities amounts at the present time to £255.

¹ The charity trustees also receive the children's school-pence, which add about twelve pounds a year more.

² A farm-house has been erected on this land by the charity trustees for the accommodation of the tenant of their own land, which adjoins it.

³ See p. 20.

THE BENEDICTINE MONKS OF ELMENEY AND DENNEY.

To determine the order of the circumstances connected with the foundation of the religious establishment of Benedictine monks, first at Elmeney, then at Denney, is somewhat difficult. However, by comparing the several quotations from the *Liber Eliensis*, as given in the new edition of Dugdale¹, we seem to arrive at the following historical facts.

About the middle of the twelfth century a chapel or cell was built, and dedicated to God, St James, and St Leonard, on the isle of Elmeney² in Chittering fen, where Waterbeach joins the parish of Stretham, by some Benedictine monks from the monastery at Ely. They had one named Reynold (*Reginaldus*) at their head, and were under the patronage, as well as received the assistance, of Henry Picot, and Robert or Rodbert, chamberlain to Conan IV., duke of Brittany, and earl of Richmond. The situation, in which they had located themselves, soon proved to be very unsuitable for their purpose. Reynold and his brethren had frequently to complain of being seriously incommoded by the surrounding waters, insomuch that they were sometimes actually interrupted in the performance of divine service.

Aubrey (*Albericus*) Picot, the son of Henry, having often heard these their complaints, and wishing to aid in placing them more conveniently for executing their religious offices, gave to God, to St James, and St Leonard, to Reynold the monk, to his brethren, and their successors for ever, free from all secular services and taxations, four acres and a half of land

¹ *Monast. Angl.* Vol. vi. Part iii. pp. 1549, 1552, 1553.

² Now called by corruption *Elmney hill*. Foundations are said to have been seen there within the last fifty years. Elmeney denotes the isle of elms, or elm-island.

in the isle of Denney¹, secure from inundations, in a higher situation, more suited for erecting a church, for constructing their own dwellings, and for making plantations and gardens. And this he did with the consent of his wife, his brothers, and his heirs. The deed of transfer Aubrey Picot terminates by a wish for the gift to remain firm to the honor of God, and of the above-mentioned saints, and to the convenience and advantage of the before-named brethren, and to the salvation both of his own soul, and of the souls of all his relations.

Accordingly, after the completion of the requisite buildings, the monks with Reynold removed to Denney, still retaining their hold upon Elmeney, as well as the land, which Aubrey's father Henry had before given them in the village of Beche, viz. six acres, two in each field, together with a managium, or dwelling-house². But Aubrey's liberality does not appear to have been quite disinterested. For Reynold and his brethren are related, from a desire to relieve his wants (*volentes necessitatibus meis subvenire*), to have granted him out of their church-fund a benefaction of two marks and a half of silver, with twelve pence. Wherefore the writer of the *Liber Eliensis* rightly describes the transaction by affirming, that the monks bought the property from him.

When the new church had been finished and consecrated, Robert became a great benefactor to it: indeed, since the monks are said to have founded even the cell at Denney under him, and himself to have afterwards given it up to them for a perpetual possession, he, probably, provided also the materials, or furnished them with money, for that work. At length, falling sick unto death, Robert wanted to be made a monk at Ely. His request was readily complied with, and he took the habit.

¹ Why so called does not appear. The Saxon termination, of course, signifies island. Has the former syllable any connexion with the Danes, who were long in this part of the kingdom? If so, Denney means the *Danes' island*.

² Aubrey duly confirmed Henry Picot's grant. Cole's *MSS.* Vol. xxxvi. p. 185 b.

Then by a regular deed he made over in perpetual alms to St James and St Leonard, to Reynold the monk of Ely, and to the monks of the same church serving God, St James and St Leonard in the isle which is called Denney, two parts of Elmeney¹, the property he may have originally bestowed upon them, whilst they were yet resident there. Robert goes on likewise to confirm a grant subsequently made to the new church at its consecration by Nigel, bishop of Ely, and made, too, in that bishop's presence, for the salvation of his own soul, and of that of his wife, and for the souls of his father and his mother, viz. of nine acres of land, three in each field, together with a curtilage², to be held in free alms. He declares, that he gave to them at the same time other gifts besides this, as, of a managium in Beche, which Godric, the son of Rafrid, from Brittany, tenanted, with all the land Godric himself held in the fields, amounting to half a virgate, free from all taxes to himself, his heirs, or his lords in chief, except such as belonged to the crown for this half virgate, and were assessed on the whole county. He also gave, he says, for ever the ninth sheaf from his own demesne of Wilburham and Wendy, together with the church of Wendy, and whatsoever belonged to the same church, to God, to St James, and St Leonard, and to the brethren in the aforesaid island serving God. Moreover, he confirmed to the above-named church of Denney the gift he equally made in the presence of the Bishop Nigel, viz. of all the churches of his land, as they should become vacant, wherever they were, for instance, the churches of Wendy, Wilburham, and Kirkeby³, to have them for an undisturbed possession in perpetual alms. Robert reminds all the future sons of Holy Church, that his two sons and heirs, George and Nigel, allowed these gifts in the presence of Nigel, lord bishop of Ely, in a

¹ Henry Picot had given them one-third part of this small fen island, which altogether contained only about twenty acres.

² A plot of ground for a yard or garden.

³ A village in Norfolk may be here meant.

general assembly. Lastly, he urges George and Nigel, as a father would urge most dear sons, to increase, as well the afore-said island, as the land in Beche pertaining to the said island, by all lawful means, for the benefit of the church, and their own souls. His only object in all this was, to leave a lasting remembrance of himself, and of his parents, before God. He at length closes the whole transaction with the expression of a tremendous curse against any of his heirs, who should deprive the church of the least part of these alms.

Robert had been accustomed to pay to the monks of Mount St Michael, (those, probably, living on the North-west coast of Normandy), one mark of silver annually for the tithe of his demesne of Wilburham: that tithe he gave to the monks of Denney, on condition that the same mark of silver should be paid as usual, and at the same time, namely, at the nativity of St John the Baptist.

The several grants made by Robert were confirmed by his superior, Conan, whose ancestors, as we have seen¹, held land also in Bece. He was induced to do this, he affirms, out of regard for the salvation of his own soul, and of the souls of all his ancestors. So Nigel, bishop of Ely, in 1166, three years before his own death², by a public document dated at Wive-lingham [Willingham], addressed to all the present and future members of the whole Catholic Church, rehearsed the several benefactions of Aubrey Picot and Robert, established them by his episcopal authority, and strove to render them, as well as any future gifts, secure by a threat of excommunication.

¹ Page 9.

² *Anglia Sacra*, Tom. i. p. 629.

THE KNIGHTS TEMPLARS OF DENNEY.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE possessed three Preceptories of the Knights Templars, at Great Wilbraham, Duxworth (Duxford), and Denney¹. Preceptories, a term peculiar to this order, were manors or estates, whereon, erecting churches for the service of God, together with all other convenient buildings, they placed some of their fraternity, chiefly their sick and aged brethren, who were often removed thither for the benefit of country air and repose after their warlike toils. These establishments were severally under the government of one of the more eminent Templars, whom the Grand Master had created a Preceptor Templi, or administrator of a particular district, and whose duty consisted in taking care of the lands in his neighbourhood, and in collecting the rents; so that out-cells to the principal house in London were thus constituted.

Bishop Nigel's endeavours to keep the Benedictine monks of Denney in undisturbed enjoyment of their property were not of much avail. The Knights Templars very soon supplanted them. Hence we read of a compact between brother Richard Hastings, guardian of the Knights Templars' property in England, and the prior and convent of Ely, made 4 Cal. Sep. 1176, in the presence of Geoffry (Ridel), bishop of Ely, which compact concerned the site of Denney, and some other things. The Knights Templars were to hold whatever the monks had held in Beche and elsewhere, as before mentioned, on condition of paying yearly to the church of Ely, and the convent, iiij marks of silver, ij at the feast of St Michael, and the remaining ij at the feast of St Botolph (June 17th); these iiij marks to be laid out in hospitality on the two festivals of St Ethel-

¹ Addison's *Hist. of the Knights Templars*, p. 54. Templars may also have been settled at Wendy. See Tanner's *Notit. Monast.* under Shengay, note *f*.

dreda (Oct. 17 and June 23). Henry II. confirmed this compact, as did Pope Alexander III.¹

The transaction which follows is curious. By it the Knights Templars, whose possession of Denney it indirectly bears upon, acquired one acre of land, and forty pence rent, whilst the defendant became entitled in return to the privileges conferred on their tenants. 8 Johannis [1207]: Within fifteen days before the feast of Saint Hilary a composition of a suit was entered into in the king's court, at Westminster by Hermeric, master of the Temple, (whose agent in the business was Robert de Torp,) and Michael, son of, respecting fifteen acres of land and a messuage in Beche. These the defendant admitted to belong to the master; and in return for such acknowledgment the master granted to him the said messuage with its appurtenances, and of the lands afore-mentioned nine acres in Wulfholes, two acres and a half in Rudichfeld, and two acres and a half in Banholefeld, to hold the same by himself and his heirs of Hermeric and his successors for ever by free service, rendering ten pence at each of the four quarters of the year².

22 Hen. III. [1238] the Knights Templars are declared to be holders of two parts of Waterbeach of the fee of the bishop of Ely in free alms³. From Tanner, under the head of Denney, we learn that, in an old manuscript taxation of the diocese of Ely, made by Walter, bishop of Norwich, in 1255, at the command of Pope Innocent IV. the *Templarii de Daneye*, and the *Fratres de Daneye*, occur often as owners of land in several parishes within the deanery of Chesterton. *Templarii manentes apud Denney* are said, in an ancient chartulary belonging to the bishopric of Ely, to hold lands of the manor of Stretham.

¹ Cole's *MSS.* Vol. xxxvi. p. 180 b; and Vol. xlv. p. 169.

² Coke's *Second Institute*, pp. 432, 465; Hunter's *Fines*, Vol. i. p. 317.

³ Harleian *MSS.* No. 6768, p. 35; see also *Hist. and Antiq. of Barnwell Abbey*, p. 53.

At an Inquisition for Cambridgeshire, taken 7 Edw. I. [1279], it was found, that the Knights Templars [magister militie Templi] held in Wat'beyche iij hides of land with Elmeneye, in lands, meadows, and marshes, of the fee of the bishop of Ely, in free alms, paying to the prior of Ely every year four marks. They also held there in lands and meadows iij^{xx} acres of the warden of Richemund, which land had been accustomed to pay to the same warden yearly ij^s. and ij^d., but, from some cause or other, had then omitted to pay this sum for twenty years or more: a fishery called Merewere, in the parish of Stretham, of the abbot of Wroxhale [in Warwickshire], paying to the abbot yearly j mark; and another fishery in the same parish called Garentre, of the annual value of xvij^s. Twenty years later, 27 Edw. I. [1299], the grand master of the order claimed, in right, of course, of the manor of Denney, to hold a View of frank-pledge¹, &c. in Wat'beyche, and elsewhere, among the villages of the county², where was land belonging to the Knights Templars of Denney. This privilege had been granted to his order by charter, 12 Hen. III. [1228].

At the beginning of 1308 the Knights Templars were suddenly arrested in all parts of England, themselves cast into prison, and their property attempted to be seized into the king's hands. Among those, who were sent to the Tower of London, we have the name of William de la Forde, preceptor at Denney³. By a bull of Pope Clement V., in 1313, the estates of the Knights Templars, which were very considerable, were all given to the prior of the hospital of St John of Jerusalem, that is, to the Knights Hospitalers, in order that the intentions of the original donors might still be carried into effect, the Holy Land defended, and the Christian cause in the east succoured. An Act of Parliament, passed in 1324, finally

¹ A manor having this right was exempted from all payments both to the hundred and sheriff.

² *Rot. Hundred.* Tom. II. p. 454; *Placita de Quo Warranto*, p. 107.

³ Wilkins' *Concil.* Vol. II. p. 347.

completed this arrangement. It had been procured by the united interest of the pope, the bishops, and the Knights Hospitalers, notwithstanding the strong opposition it met with, both from the powerful barons, who had got possession of many of the estates, and from the heirs of the donors, whose title to them had been recognised by law. However, Edward II., by means of Sir Philip Darcy, prior of St Mary's Hospital, Bishopsgate Without, London, obtained a grant from Thomas Larcher, prior of the Knights Hospitalers, and his brethren, of a portion of the confiscated estates, whereby he acquired the right to issue directions on the following day, dated apud West. 20 Aug. 1324, to the sheriff of Kent, to seize to his own use the manor of Strode, near Rochester, (which Hen. III. had given in 1227 to the Knights Templars,) and likewise to the sheriff of Cambridgeshire, to seize equally the manor of Daneye cum pertinentiis¹. Thus the crown was able to transfer this property (which, we shall soon find, that it did) to the Lady Mary de St Paul, the widowed countess of Pembroke; whilst, on the other hand, she conferred it upon those nuns Minoresses, whom she had established at Denney.

THE NUNS MINORESSES OF WATERBEACH.

THE Lady Dionysia de Montchensey was the foundress of the monastery of Waterbeach for the nuns Minoresses, or nuns of the order of St Clare². This order of nuns, instituted about 1219, was a branch of the Franciscans. They were called Minoresses in imitation of the followers of St Francis, who, out

¹ Rymer's *Fœdera*, Vol. II. Pars 1, p. 567.

² She died in 1258, and was canonized two years after. St Clare's day in the Romish calendar was August 12th. She was invoked by them that had sore eyes; and also, as the saviour of women, from her time till the end of the world. Rogers *On the XXXIX. Articles*, pp. 226, 298, Park. Soc. See a curious account of her in Geddes' *Miscellaneous Tracts*, Vol. III. pp. 421, 422.

of a pretended humility, took the title of Minores, or Minorites : they were likewise called Clarisses from their foundress, a native of Assisi in Umbria, born, in 1193, of noble parents, and contemporary there with St Francis, to whose advice from her childhood she wholly conformed herself ; and Poor Clares, probably, from their scanty endowments. Like the Franciscans, they wore a grey habit, and observed St Francis' rule.

The nuns Minoresses were encouraged to come into England from France, about 1293, by Blanch of Artois, queen of Navarre, wife to Edward, earl of Lancaster, brother of Edward I., her husband having obtained leave to build an establishment for them in London, without Aldgate, called the Minorities, to the honour of the blessed Virgin and St Francis. There never were more than three other houses of this order in England, at Waterbeach, Denney, and Brusyard [Bruisyard] in Suffolk¹. The last was founded, at the instance of Lionel, duke of Clarence, son of Edward III., 4th October, 1366.

The Lady Dionysia, only daughter and heiress of Richard de Anesty in Hertfordshire, was lady of Anesty, and married William de Montchensey, (de Monte Caniso or of Mount Chesnew), a great baron, killed in 1288, at the siege of Drosselan castle, by a Welshman, Rees ap Griffith. Some years previous to his death, as we learn from the Inquisition taken for Cambridge-shire, 7 Edw. I. [1279], before referred to, she possessed half the fee of a knight in Wat'beyche, containing in lands, meadows, and marshes, a hide and a half, or about two hundred acres, which she held of Richard le Butiller², and which he, from at least 35 Hen. III. [1251], had held of the king. She rendered yearly to Richard le Butiller a rose, and a sprig of gilliflower or stock, whilst he was bound, at a time of general war, to provide

¹ Newcourt's *Repertorium*, Vol. i. p. 562 ; Dugdale's *Monast. Angl.* Vol. vi. Part iii. p. 1548.

² He, or one of his ancestors, held the office of butiller (butler) to some great nobleman.

the king, on his command, with half a knight's service¹. Two years later, on Richard le Butiller's surrender, the king was pleased to grant by deed dated 1st August, in the ninth year of his reign [1281], the same land to the Lady Dionysia, with a licence to found thereon a house of any religious order. He also permitted her to hold it of himself in capite, by the service of the rose and the sprig of gilliflower, cum pertinentiis suis, et cum omnibus libertatibus et consuetudinibus; at the same time freeing and discharging it from every other kind of service due to himself.

The Lady Dionysia held a fishery, too, in Waterbeach, worth xl^s. a year². She likewise was allowed to possess forty librates, that is, one hundred and sixty oxgangs³ of land; which is a very considerable quantity.

At length she determined to place the nuns Minoresses on her manor of Waterbeach, and procured a charter of foundation, or royal licence, for that purpose, dated at Walsingham, 3 March, 22nd Edw. I. [1294], whereby she was permitted, a partibus transmarinis venire facere, quot ad divinum obsequium ibidem celebrandum fore viderit opportunas. Edward II. confirmed this charter at Westminster in the eleventh year of his reign (30 January, 1318), at the same time giving a more ample description of the manor, than had been done before. It was made over to her 'cum messuagiis, edificiis, terris, pratis, pasturis, mariscis, communis, turbariis, aquis, gurgitibus, piscariis, viis et semitis, homagiis liberorum hominum, et omnibus eorum servitiis, wardis, releviis, escætis, villanis cum eorum villenagiis, servitiis et eorum sequelis, ac omnibus aliis rebus ad prædictum manerium quoquo modo spectantibus⁴.'

Apparently, she had already begun to build a church and offices for the use of her nuns early in the previous year, (anno

¹ Hallam's *Middle Ages*, Vol. I. p. 179.

² *Rot. Hundred.* Tom. II. p. 456.

³ In some places a bovat or oxgang was 24 acres, in others as low as 8 acres.

⁴ Dugdale's *Monast. Angl.* Vol. VI. Part III. p. 1554.

1293 incipiente,) well knowing, of course, that her wishes on the subject would be complied with. The buildings were erected a little to the south of the parish-church, which had only just been built, or more likely rebuilt, in a close even now styled the Hall-close, or the close in which the Hall of the manor stood. The title of her religious foundation ran:—*Abbatissa et Conventus Monasterii pietatis beate Marie Virginis de Waterbeche Ordinis St Clare*. The seal was oblong—in medio cujus apparbat imago cujusdam mulieris, manibus junctis ante pectus, &c. In ipsius vero sigilli circumferentia hæc literæ legebantur:—*Sigillum Communitatis Sororum Minorum commorantium apud Waterbeche*. The arms were the arms of the family of Montchensey¹.

About the feast of the Ascension, 1294 (anno revoluto), the Lady Dionysia brought over from France the first four sisters, and placed them in her monastery, under the government of Joanna de Nyvernys, or de Nevers, as abbess². They and their companions, however, were not allowed to establish themselves in their new habitation without a contest. For Symon de Ascellis³, prior of Barnwell, with the convent, rectors by appropriation of the parish of Waterbeach, and Constantine, the vicar, strongly opposed the settlement there of the nuns Minoresses, on the plea of its necessarily causing considerable loss to the mother-church, and consequently to themselves and their successors, as has since (says Mr Masters) most fatally happened. They alleged that, if such a settlement were suffered to take place, all, or most part of, the small tithes, as milk, oblations, confessions, and other things belonging of common right to the said church, and which heretofore had been constantly and quietly paid, would be drawn away. Very warm disputes arose on this subject, which were at length ended for the present, on the advice of Guy (Guido) official to William

¹ Cole's *MSS*. Vol. xxxvi. p. 129 b; Guillim, p. 340.

² Leland's *Collect*. Vol. II. p. 442.

³ From Ascele (Ashley) near Newmarket.

de Luda, bishop of Ely, and of other friends. All parties agreed to abide the decision of the said Guy, and bound themselves so to do under their respective seals; the writings, or letters patent, as they are called in the ledger-book of Barnwell¹, bear date at Waterbeach the third of the ides of February, 1294 [1295].

Guy, having carefully considered the question in all its bearings, came to the following determination:—That eleven shillings should be paid to the vicar in the parish-church of Waterbeach, at Easter, and eleven shillings more at Michaelmas, by way of compensation: that these sums were to free from every demand the secular servants of the monastery, who were always employed within; on the contrary, the secular servants employed outside the monastery, whether parishioners or strangers, were to make the usual oblations to the mother-church of Waterbeach four times a year at least; were therein to receive the sacraments of the church, and, if they died in the parish, but were about to be carried elsewhere for burial, *prima missa cum corpore præsenti celebretur in ipsa ecclesia, et oblationes morientis ibidem*². Certain tithes, also, were at the same time declared to be due to the monastery of Barnwell, which were to be received as freely and as fully, as they had ever been. This deed likewise was dated at Waterbeach the fourth of the ides of February, 1294 [1295].

But all contention was not yet over. After Benedict de Welton, on the death of Symon de Ascellis in 1297, had become prior, violent disputes concerning both great and small tithes very soon again arose between the two religious houses of Waterbeach and Barnwell, (the nuns claiming to hold their estates free of tithes by papal indulgences,) insomuch that the matter was carried to Rome. There the case was argued, 22nd Nov. 1302, by regularly appointed advocates before the bishops of Worcester and Ely (Robert Winchelsey and Robert

¹ Harleian MSS. No. 3601, and No. 7036.

² The corse-presents. See p. 52.

de Orford), who had then gone to Rome for the papal confirmation of their appointment, and for consecration. They decided that the prior and convent of Barnwell should take their tithes, as usual: that the abbess and sisters of Waterbeach, as some remuneration for the papal indulgences they pretended to possess, ought to be paid one hundred marks; and that the previous composition, as regarded the vicar, was to continue in force¹.

An Inquisition was taken at Cambridge by the royal justiciaries on the octave of St Hilary, 27 Edw. I. [1299], when the abbess of Waterbeach, as owner of the manor, made a claim to hold a View of frank-pledge (which privilege had always been annexed to it), with the assize of bread and ale, in regard to the tenants of her manor². Twenty years before it had been allowed to her *ex antiquo usu*. 13 Edw. II. [1319] she was permitted by letters patent to hold houses in Cambridge. By means of this patent, and the previous licence to possess land, the monastery acquired property of the annual value of eighty-eight shillings³.

The names of three abbesses of Waterbeach are known, and probably these were all, since the nuns Minoresses did not continue there more than fifty-seven years, from 1294 to 1351, and during the last eight or nine years would appear not to have had an abbess of their own, the abbess of Denney, their late head, being, in fact, still their governor, though the two establishments were not yet formally united. Joanna de Nyvernis was, at all events, the first, having been appointed by the foundress herself, though how long she enjoyed that office we cannot tell. The second was Johan de Trengge, who is expressly related in the Court Rolls of the manor of Waterbeach cum Denney to have been *ladie abbesse* of Waterbeech. For, at a court held 3 Hen. V. [1415], William Smyth, aged thir-

¹ Baker's *MSS.* Vol. xxviii. pp. 41, &c.

² *Rot. Hundred.* Tom. ii. p. 456; Dugdale's *Monast. Angl.* Vol. vi. Part iii. pp. 1554, 1555.

³ Baker's *MSS.* Vol. xiv. p. 2.

teen, claimed to be admitted to certain premises, because he was great-grandson and heir of Jeffery and Matild Sharpe, to whom she had formerly granted them. A reference to Joane de Trene, abbesse of Waterbeche, again occurs 9 Hen. VI. [1430]. The third, Katerine de Bolwyk, was abbess in 1339. The Lady Mary de St Paul, the widowed Countess of Pembroke, whose name will soon be repeated very frequently, in her deed of 1351, uniting Waterbeach to Denney, distinctly names her as such, and therefore joining in the petition about that time presented to herself from the nuns Minoresses of Waterbeach for a change of situation, in consequence of the serious inconveniences pertaining to that they then occupied.

The abbess [of Waterbeach] is referred to at a court held 8 Edw. III. [1334], when John Frost¹ takes of the Lady of the Manno^e [of Waterbeech cum Denney] land, which he had before taken and held of the abbesse. It is impossible to understand this entry without supposing that the Lady Mary de St Paul, the lady of the manor intended, had not only, at that time even, got possession of the manor of Denney², but, what we should least have expected, complete control also over the manor of Waterbeach. No abbess of Denney, however, could have existed so early as 1334. Moreover, at another court, held 21 Edw. III. [1347], John Bodecokes and Alice his wife are admitted into land lyeinge betweene Waterbeech Abby and the land of Richard att Charr, in a feild there called Hillfeild [Hall-field?]. The abbess of Waterbeach, and the fief of Waterbeach, occur likewise in an entry connected with a court, held 34 Edw. III. [1360], which has been before quoted³. The manor of Waterbeach is clearly mentioned, as a manor by itself, (nevertheless, in conjunction with that of Denney,) 4 Hen. V. [1416], when Thomas Michell acknowledged that he held a messuage, &c. of the Ladie of Waterbeech of the Fee of Denney.

¹ This name belonged to a highly respectable family in the early annals of Cambridge.

² See p. 101.

³ See p. 11.

The manor-farm of Waterbeach, or lordship, for it manifestly was co-extensive with the manor itself, was leased by the abbess and convent of Denney, 20th May, 25 Hen. VIII. [1533] to Robert Hasyll, Edward Cherington, John Elyott, and Thomas Fyrmant, junior, their executors and assigns, for a term of years, at the rent of £12 a year. The property is thus described in the conventual lease:—*Firma Mansionis sive Firma Scitus Manerii de Waterbeche in Com. Cant. cum uno Columbario et omnibus terris arribilibus, pratis, pascuis, et pasturis, eidem pertinentibus sive spectantibus.*

This rent of £12 was paid to the crown, 36 Hen. VIII. [1544], as we learn from the accounts for that year now in the branch Public Record Office, Carlton Ride, Robert Chester, of Cokenhatch, near Barkway, subsequently knighted, who was steward of the manor, and afterwards lessee of the Denney Abbey estate, being the king's bailiff for his property in the parish. A similar payment also continued to be made down to the reign of Charles II., though the fee-simple of the manor-farm had, in 1614, been transferred into private hands. In 1670 and 1671 two Acts of Parliament were passed providing for the sale of all the numerous small rents, called royalties, belonging to the crown, the collection of which was very chargeable to his majesty, and very troublesome to the subject. The annual sum of £12, arising from the manor-farm of Waterbeach, was consequently made over by purchase to the Downing family, and formed a portion of the estate bequeathed to the University of Cambridge by the will of Sir George Downing, Bart. of Gamlingay, (who died in 1749,) for founding a college there.

John Yaxley is reported to have had from the crown a lease of the manor-farm of Waterbeach; nor need we doubt that he had, at least, with others, though no mention thereof occurs in his will. For, in 1599, a suit was instituted in chancery by Thomas White and Joan his wife against Thomas Adams, Robert (an evident mistake for John) Yaxley, and

William Carrowe, touching a lease of a moiety of the manor of Waterbeach, and of divers lands there, held by William Adams for a term of years¹. Yaxley was not long before he became more than lessee of this property. In consideration of the two sums of £500 and £405 paid to the crown by John Yaxley and Edward Aungier, letters patent, dated 6 March, 11 Jac. I. [1614], conveyed to them, their heirs, and assigns, in fee, both the manor-farm of Waterbeach, and Causeway-end farm, then containing the same quantity of land as it did in 1540, when Elrington, as we shall see², let it out. The fee-farm rents of £12 and £9 were, of course, not included in the purchase.

In what precise manner John Robson, Yaxley's son-in-law, came into the sole possession of the former of these properties, that being the only one about which we are now concerned, whether by purchase or otherwise, does not appear. On the contrary, we do know, that his family, in 1701, for a reason mentioned before, parted with it, consisting of 242 acres, to Josiah Bacon. By far the larger portion has been sold off to different individuals in small allotments. The remainder, somewhat under 60 acres, at present belongs to Edward Mason, Esq. who bought it in 1842 of Lady Beresford, to whom it had come from her former husband, Mr Peach. By him the fee-farm rent of £12 is now paid to Downing College.

Portions of the foundation of the abbey still remain under the grass, which entirely covers them, though some have occasionally been dug up, in former years, if not very recently, for the repair of the highway. So also do the embankments still remain, by which the fen waters were attempted to be kept off from the inhabited buildings. The Hall, or chief mansion, of the manor has long been completely demolished; but the barns, &c. were still standing, at the end of the last century, in a place called the Hall-yard. That it did once exist, we learn even from the following order:—9 Edw. IV. [1469]: The

¹ *Calend. Chancery Proceedings temp. Eliz.* Vol. III. p. 278.

² Page 124.

Ladyes Baylye ought to cleanse the watercourse at the Hallgate; as, nearly a century later, from the account of the conventual property leased out by Elrington.

THE NUNS MINORESSES OF DENNEY.

THE nuns Minoresses of the order of St Clare were first placed at Denney in the very beginning of 1342, and whilst a similar religious establishment, though, probably, without a distinct head, continued to exist at Waterbeach. The foundress of that abbey was the Lady Mary de St Paul, countess dowager of Pembroke, Lady of Weysford [Wexford] and Montignac¹, who, by papal dispensation on account of consanguinity, had been second² wife of Audomar, or Aylmer, de Valence, earl of Pembroke. She sprung from Guy de Castellion (of Conches near Evreux), Count of Castellion and St Paul, in France, who, in 1298, took to wife Mary, daughter of John II.³, duke of Brittany and earl of Richmond, which John, in 1259, had married Beatrix, second daughter of Henry III. king of England. Audomar, who, by the death of his elder brothers, had succeeded to the earldom of Pembroke in 1296, was a nephew by marriage of the foundress of the abbey of Waterbeach, and finally, through his mother, her husband's sister, inherited her property. For Joan de Montchensey had married in 1247 William de Valence, earl of Pembroke, Audomar's father, uterine brother of Henry III. The Lady Dionysia de Montchensey and her husband left

¹ See a long account of her in Cole's *MSS.* Vol. XIX. pp. 127, &c.

² See *Archæologia*, Vol. XXVI. p. 339.

³ By a deed dated 7th November, 1333, John III. grandson to John II. let everything belonging to him in England, as Earl of Richmond, (except the woods, the ecclesiastical patronage, and his title,) to his niece, the Lady Mary de St Paul, during the lives of both parties, for an annuity of £1800 paid quarterly. Edward III. confirmed this arrangement at Shirebourn, on the twenty-third of the same month. Rymer's *Fœdera*, Vol. II. Part II. p. 873.

an only daughter, similarly named Dionysia, who, about 1288, became wife to Hugh de Vere, earl of Oxford, and dying childless in 1313, Audomar succeeded to her estates, as her cousin and next heir¹. He died suddenly, at Paris, 27th June, 17 Edw. II. [1324], on the day of his marriage. Some suppose him to have been murdered, others to have been slain in a tournament, his untimely death being represented as a judgment for his conduct to the Earl of Lancaster². His widow, being then very young, after this sad disaster, determined to consecrate the rest of her life to God; and, having large possessions, (of which Dugdale gives a detailed account³), to bestow her temporal estate, according to the custom of those times, upon the poor, and the church.

In order to carry this design into execution she made application to Edward III., godson to her late husband, and her relation by her grandmother Beatrix, for assistance. She gave up to him certain castles, towns, and manors; she also paid him the sum of £250; and in return she received, amongst other estates, the manor of Denney, consisting of more than a thousand acres of land, and considered to be worth, according to one authority, one hundred marks a year, according to another, fifty pounds, by a deed executed at Waltham, April 8th, in the 10th year of his reign [1336]. The date of this deed suggests a difficulty, which we can solve in no other way, than by imagining, that she had come into the actual possession of the manor a few years before it was formally made over to her. For the Court Rolls tell us, that the Lady Marie de Sancto Paulo, comitissa de Pembroke, held a court the friday before Palmsunday, 1 Edw. III. [1327]. This lady, in virtue of the considerations above recounted, by another deed, dated at Haverynge atte Boure, four days later, was likewise

¹ Hasted's *Hist. of Kent*, Vol. i. pp. 258, 551.

² See Leland's *Collect.* Vol. ii. p. 474; Cooper's *Memorials of Cambridge*, Vol. i. p. 50.

³ *Baronage*, Tom. i. p. 778.

allowed to assign over the said manor of Denney in free alms to the abbess and sister Minoresses of Waterbeach, whilst those ladies had liberty to accept the gift.

The next deed is dated at Berkhamstede, 14th April, 13 Edw. III. [1339]. In this the Lady Mary de St Paul has permission granted her to transfer the religious establishment at Waterbeach to her manor of Denney, and to assist the nuns in erecting there proper buildings for a permanent residence. The reason assigned is :—*cum mansum Abbatissæ et Sororum Minorum de Waterbeche in loco stricto, basso, et corrupto, ac alias pro mora earundem minus sufficienti situetur*. Two years afterwards she again applied to her royal relative, acknowledged that she had changed her intentions, and wished now to found herself a new house of nuns Minoresses at Denney, instead of removing the nuns from Waterbeach thither, and to make over her manor to them. She obtained leave so to do by a deed dated at Westminster, 27th Sept. 15 Edw. III. [1341]. In the course of a few months, therefore, the Lady Mary de St Paul carried out her new plan, and delivered up the manor of Denney to God, the glorious Virgin Mary, St Clare, sister Katerine de Bolwyk abbess [of Denney], and the sisters of St Clare. This deed is dated 1342, and was signed at Denney, no doubt, purposely, on the day of the Conversion of St Paul. Simon de Montacute, bishop of Ely, was one of the witnesses to it, and Edward III. confirmed it 24th February. The abbess of Denney held her first court on Monday in Easter week, 18 Edw. III. [1344].

Katerine de Bolwyk, though now transferred to the abbey of Denney, must have continued virtually at the head of her late abbey of Waterbeach. Consequently, the following extract from the Court Rolls relates simply to an arrangement concerning the two manors of Waterbeach and Denney, which were still quite separate, and belonged to separate religious establishments :—*Vigilia natalis Domini* 19 Edw. III. [1345]: The jurors say that the abbess of Waterbeche hath built vj

cottages upon her proper fee, and therefore of consent there is day until the next court to enquire, how much perteyneth to the lady abbess of Denney¹.

The manor of Strode, alias Temple, equally of the value of fifty pounds a year, had first been granted to the lady Mary de St Paul, his dear kinswoman, for her life, by Edward III. in recompence of certain lands and tenements lately belonging to her, which he had taken into his own hands; and she had purposed, says Tanner², to build a religious house on it, but altered her mind, and built at Denney. Afterwards, by other letters patent, dated 28th April, 12 Edw. III. [1338], this same manor was made over to her and her heirs for ever, because of the trouble and expence, which she had been at, and might yet be at, in relation to his daughter, Joane of Wodstoke, born in 1335, then living with her in her family³. By a deed dated at Westminster, 21st August, 18 Edw. III. [1344], she was enabled, as a further instance of royal favour, to give her manor of Strode to the abbess and sister Minoresses of Denney, or to any other religious body she pleased.

In 1433, the wardens of the new bridge of Rochester, (which bridge over the Medway has just been demolished in consequence of the erection of another more convenient, not far from the old site,) complained to Parliament, that the tenants of the abbess of Denney, and others having lands and tenements adjoining the Westbrest of the said bridge, did not embank their lands⁴.

Another deed bearing date 13th May, 20th Edw. III. [1346], allowed the Lady Mary de St Paul to make over the patronage of the abbacy of the nuns Minoresses of Waterbeach, which was held of the king in capite, to the abbess and nuns Minoresses of Denney: she might also unite the two abbeys together.

¹ See p. 10.

² *Notit. Monast.*

³ Rymer's *Fœdera*, Vol. II. Part II. p. 1031.

⁴ *Rolls of Parl.* Vol. IV. p. 468.

The last deed to be referred to in this business is dated at Fodryngey, 1st May, 25 Edw. III. [1351], and which that monarch confirmed at Westminster on the 13th of the same month. In it the Lady Mary de St Paul recites the petition, which she had received in 1339 from the occupants of the abbey of Waterbeach, (whose abbess Katerine de Bolwyk then was,) for a better and more suitable residence. In answer to this petition, she unites Waterbeach to Denney, and thus complies at length with their wishes: she reserves to herself the advowson of the abbey; and requires the abbess and sisters of Denney to maintain at Waterbeach a chaplain¹, who should pray for the souls of Dionysia of Montchensey, foundress of the abbey there, and also for the souls of her own relations, for ever. This removal of the nuns, which we may well believe took place immediately, was sanctioned by a bull of Pope Innocent VI. dated at Avignon 4 id. Maii, 1359.

Moreover, the Lady Mary de St Paul, having obtained the royal licence, 24th December, 1347, founded 9th June, 1348, Pembroke College, in Cambridge. Her college she liberally endowed, at the same time ordering the fellows thereof to visit the nuns of Denney as their confessors, and give them ghostly counsel, whenever occasion should require.

26 Edw. III. [1352], she obtained a royal licence for holding houses and lands in Cambridge to the annual value of one hundred shillings; as, twelve years later², for holding houses and lands worth x^{li} per annum in Landbeach, Midulton [Milton], Histon, &c.; all which property she eventually transferred to the nuns Minoresses of Denney. The Lady Mary de St Paul held, 38 Edw. III. [1364], on behalf of that religious body, the following property: the manor of Eyehalle, belonging to Horningsey; lands and tenements in Horningsey, Waterbech, Midulton, Cantab. Landbech, Histon, Impington,

¹ Possibly the chantry chapel mentioned on p. 36 was erected for this chaplain.

² Baker's *MSS.* Vol. xiv. p. 3.



Papworth, and something also at Abingdon in Buckinghamshire¹.

The foundress of the abbey of Denney would seem to have taken measures for leaving her establishment quite independent of all external authority. For 30 Edw. III. [1356], we find Alan de Walsingham, prior of the monastery of Ely, making a formal abandonment (and surely by her procurement) of all right or claim, which he and his brethren might have in the abbey of Denney, and its possessions, wherever they were².

The arms of Denney Abbey were naturally the same with those of Pembroke College, as having had the same foundress, being, in fact, the arms of her late husband, and of her own family, party per pale. Two seals belonged to this religious establishment; at least, we possess impressions of two different seals appended to two several documents emanating from Denney Abbey, and that at a very few years' interval from each other. The earlier one is attached to a deed dated 10 Hen.



VII. [1494], now in the treasury of Pembroke College. The device upon it is the Virgin and Child under a canopy, the Virgin seated, crowned, and holding in her left hand a palm-branch: at base a figure in devotion: the legend, *Sigillu com.... abbatie de Danye*. The deed, to which the other pertains,

¹ *Calend. Inquisit. post mortem*, Vol. II. p. 268.

² Baker's *MSS.* Vol. XXXVIII. p. 177.

bears date 11th July, 1513, and is connected with the appropriation of Eltisley, licence for which, (in conjunction with Biddenham,) having been recently obtained from Henry VIII. by a privy seal. Cole has sketched this impression, which, as the opposite engraving of it shews, is large and oval. It represents two figures under a canopy, one of which, a man, as he says, is giving the benediction over the head of the other, a female, who is inclining to kneel. There is a long legend round it, but only de Deney can be distinguished, from the letters being so closely huddled together. He fancies the subject to be St Francis blessing St Clare at her reception into his order. Another notion supposes the figure seated, crowned, and giving the benediction, to belong, as indeed it evidently does, to a female, and even to be that of St Clare¹ herself. Judging, however, from the seal first mentioned, it is much more likely to be intended for the Virgin Mary. In the crypt are the arms of the abbey.

Having applied a considerable share of her large possessions to pious uses, that is, part on churches, part on the poor, and part on her faithful servants, the Lady Mary de St Paul departed this life at a good old age, 16th March, 1376-7. She was buried in her abbey of Denney under an elegant tomb of black touch, or marble², between the two choirs of the nuns and the seculars. Her will is dated 'at my manor of Braxsted, in Essex,' three days before her death, and contains the following direction: 'my body to be buried in the church of the sisters of Denney, in the heart thereof, where my tomb is made³.' What is called a portrait of her hangs at the upper

¹ *Collect. Topog. et Geneal.* Vol. VI. p. 362.

² *Parker de Antiq. Britan. Eccles.* Append. p. xi. See Cole's *MSS.* Vol. XXXVI. p. 153, and Vol. XLVI. p. 377, for some remarks about 'a piece of black touch, evidently part of a tomb, workmanship of the age of Edward III.,' which in 1775 he had in his garden at Milton, and which he conceived to be the one mentioned above.

³ *Nicolas' Test. Vetust.* p. 100.

end of the hall of Pembroke College; but, from the early date at which she lived, it can hardly be considered to have any authority as a likeness.

The manor of Duste in Hertfordshire having been occasionally her place of residence, she left to the abbey church of St Alban an image of St Vincent, silver-gilt, and holding in its hands a shrine containing either a bone, or the face, of that martyr¹.

Among the subsequent benefactors to the abbey at Denney were Sir Philip Tylneye, Knt., Sir John Inguldestorp, Knt., John Browne, and Walter Goddard, who, 15 Ric. II. [1391], had licence from the crown to give to the abbess [Isabella Kendall] and convent the manor of Hyston St Andrew, anciently called Colville's, from the family who once held it²; also, the advowson of the church (annexed to the manor, as was not unusual, and like it dedicated to St Andrew,) together with seven messuages, and five and a half acres of land with their appurtenances, in Waterbeche and Deneye, to hold to them and their successors for ever, the statute of mortmain notwithstanding, in aid of their support. The abbess and convent paid two hundred and fifty marks for the licence. The manor and advowson were held of the bishop of Lincoln³, who held them of the king, by the service of two knights' fees: the messuages and land were held of the abbess herself, who held them of the Baron de Huntingfield, alias de Hobrigge⁴, of Bokesworth [Boxworth], who held them of the king by the military service of xiii^d. per annum. Apparently, Sir Philip Tylneye was the principal person in this transaction, the other names being only added to impart authority, and assure permanence, to the act. The terms, on

¹ Clutterbuck's *Hist. of Hertfordshire*, Vol. i. Append. p. 37.

² Leland's *Collect.* Vol. i. p. 98; Vol. ii. p. 444; Baker's *MSS.* Vol. xxviii. p. 204.

³ Cole tells us, that in ancient times the two parishes of Histon St Andrew, and Histon St Etheldreda, were wholly of the fee of the bishop of Lincoln. *MSS.* Vol. xlvi. p. 168.

⁴ Dugdale's *Baronage*, Tom. ii. p. 7.

which he was willing to part with the property to the nuns, are stated by Mr Masters, and were forty marks a year during the lives of five persons mentioned in the deed of conveyance, or the sum of £257 13s. 4d., to be paid within a year, whereof ten pounds were at once deposited¹.

The nuns after no long interval presented a petition to John Fordham, bishop of Ely, for the appropriation of the rectory of Histon St Andrew, assigning various reasons why their petition should be granted. By an instrument, dated 4th March, 1415-6, they obtained their object, at the special request of Lady Joan Bohun², relict of Humfrey de Bohun, earl of Hereford, Essex, and Northampton; the bishop simply stipulating for the vicar having such a portion, as he should think proper. The case of the vicar, William Baber, was taken into consideration at Downham, near Ely, 20th February, 1418-9, when Bishop Fordham not merely assigned him what seemed to be his due, but reserved power for himself and his successors to add to it, if it should prove insufficient³.

In the year 1391 the abbess and sisters presented Walter Philip L. B. to the rectory of the church of St Pandonia [Pandwina], Eltisle, in their patronage. This rectory, which had been transferred to them by letters patent, 40 Edw. III. [1366], they likewise managed, 15th June, 1512, to get appropriated, brother Richard Bryngkeley⁴, D.D., a Franciscan friar, and afterwards provincial of the order in England, then president of Denney, being their agent. Their reasons for soliciting this favour were the same, which a century before they had given in the case of Histon, except as regarded the bad condition of their buildings:—That the property and income of their

¹ *Short Account of Waterbeach*, p. 46; Cole's MSS. Vol. XLVIII. p. 170.

² See pp. 9, 10. The Lady Joan died in 1419, having been a widow since 1372, and was buried in the abbey church of Walden, of which abbey she had been a great benefactress. Dugdale's *Baronage*, Tom. i. pp. 186, 187.

³ Baker's MSS. Vol. XXVIII. pp. 36-41.

⁴ See Smith's *Catalogue of Caius College MSS.* Numbers 348, 403.

convent had so diminished, without any fault or negligence of the religious women, by occasion of the mortality of men, and the prevalence of plagues, and through the rarity of husbandmen, the sterility of lands, the paucity of servants, and their exorbitant wages, the sudden and frequent murrain among the cattle, and on account of unusual floods, and the ruinous state of their buildings, (some of which had recently been reconstructed, while others must shortly be replaced,) also, through other calamities and losses,—that their means were not adequate to their convenient and decent subsistence in these days, and to the discharge of the duties incumbent upon them. They obtained possession of the tithes, &c. on the death of the last rector, Richard Carour, or Carter, Bachelor in Decrees, in 1517, twelve marks¹, the sum at present paid, with a commodious house, being allowed to the vicar by the commissioners appointed to inquire into this matter, who carried on their sittings in St Michael's Church, Cambridge².

Henry VI. made over to the provost and scholars of his recently founded college, 10th February, 1448-9, certain household and other property, which the abbess and nuns of Denney had lately granted him. Among this property were lands in Newnham, a tenement in Plute's lane or Nut-lane, with St Austin's hostel in the parish of St John Baptist. He similarly granted for the site of God's House a tenement, which was formerly of the abbess of Denney, with a garden adjacent, situate in le Prechour strete without Barnwelgate, in the parish of St Andrew³.

In the year 1487 the goods, benefices, and ecclesiastical possessions, of the abbess and nuns at Denney were exempted from the payment of tenths⁴.

¹ See Fleetwood's *Chron. Precios.* p. 112.

² Baker's *MSS.* Vol. xxx. p. 123; *Collect. Topog. et Geneal.* Vol. vi. pp. 362, &c.

³ *Rolls of Parl.* Vol. v. pp. 93 b, 162 a, b; *Camb. Univers. and Coll. Documents*, Vol. iii. p. 164.

⁴ See p. 59.

29th January, 1489-90, John Alcock, bishop of Ely, granted a testimonial and indulgence of forty days to such persons as assisted John Cade, servant to the lady Margaret Assheby, abbess of Denney, all whose goods had been consumed and annihilated by a casual fire, 27th Sept. 3 Hen. VII. [1487], insomuch that he had not enough left for the support of himself, his wife, and children. This document was to be in force for a year.

18th April, 1492, Robert Cooper and many others appeared before Bishop Alcock, at Ely, on the complaint of brother Cuthbert, president of Denney, acknowledged their errors, and received absolution¹.

8th October, 1492, Margaret Odeham of Bury St Edmund's, widow, bequeathed by will twelve pence to every nun in the house of Denney².

Sir Richard Sutton, by will dated 16th March, 15 Hen. VIII. [1524], and proved 17th November following, gives to my Lady of Denney xl^s. to pray for my soule, and their soules, that God and I would have praide for³.

The abbess and nuns were called upon by a royal brief in 1536, to pay tenths to the king for their revenues; which tenths then amounted to £17 4s. 10d. The first-fruits and tenths had been given to Henry VIII. by an Act passed in the Parliament beginning 3rd November, 1534.

From the curious book of Court Rolls so frequently quoted, and from other sources, we learn the names of most, if not of all, the abbesses of Denney. Katerine de Bolwyk was the first; and to her, who had previously been abbess of Waterbeach, the Lady Mary de St Paul made over, 25th Jan. 1342, the manor of Denney. The Lady Isabella Kendall is mentioned at a Court Baron held 2 Hen. VI. [1424], as having lately been abbess of Denney. She was so, 15 Ric. II. [1391], and still continued

¹ See p. 61.

² *Bury Wills*, p. 73.

³ Churton's *Christian Lives of Wm. Smith, bishop of Lincoln, and Sir Richard Sutton, Knight, Founders of Brazen Nose College*, pp. 457, 546.

abbess 6 Hen. IV. [1405]. The Lady Agnes Bernard held a Court Baron 1 Hen. V. [1413]. The Lady Margerie Mill, Margaret Milly, or Margerie Milley, (her name is found spelt in these three different ways,) held a Court Leet or View of frankpledge, 7 Hen. V. [1419], and a Court Leet and Court Baron 8 Hen. VI. [1429]. The Lady Katherine Sybylle held a Court Leet and Court Baron 13 Hen. VI. [1434], apparently, the very year of her appointment; and again, 28 Hen. VI. [1449]. The Lady Joane Keteryche was abbess 12th Aug. 1459, and likewise 20th Oct. 1479. The Lady Margaret¹ Assheby was abbess 20 Edw. IV. [1480], and 15th May, 1493. The Lady Elizabeth Throckmorton possessed the same office from 1512 to the dissolution of the abbey, which took place before October 1539; but, whether she succeeded Lady Margaret Assheby or not, is uncertain.

Of these ladies, until we come to Joane Keteryche, little is known. A long letter exists written by her at the end of the reign of Henry VI. to Mr John Parston (Paston), a relative, and one of the executors, of Sir John Fastolff², of Caistor, near Yarmouth, Norfolk, who, dying 6th November, 1459, had left a large sum of money to be disposed of in charity. It was inserted by Gough, from Blomefield's manuscript Collections for

¹ The name of one of these ladies, either Margaret Milley, or Margaret Assheby, was perpetuated in the parish as late as 1626, when Timothy Haynes surrendered one cottage called Lady Margaretes.

² Fastolff had been a knight of the garter, and one of the commanders of the English forces in the war with France under the uncles of Henry VI. Blomefield's *Hist. of Norfolk*, Vol. v. pp. 1549, &c.; Hume, Vol. iii. p. 150, edit. 1792; *The Paston Letters*, by Fenn, Vol. i. pp. 56, &c. edit. 1787. Shakspeare, in the first part of his *King Henry the Sixth*, particularly act iv. scene 1, has expressed the common opinion of Fastolff, as a warrior; or rather, perhaps, the bitterness of the people's grief for the ill success of the French war. Jack Cade's followers pronounced him to be the grettyst Tray't^r y^t was in Yngelond or in Fraunce. He may also have been immortalized under the name of Sir John Falstaff; but this notion is considered extremely doubtful.

this county, into his edition of Camden's *Britannia*¹, whence it has been here taken.

Reverent and Worschypfull Syr,

Aftr due recommendacion premisyd, plesythe you at the reverens of oure spouse ihu, to qwom we be wilfully professyd, to here gracyously oure humble petyscioun, as now compellyd eyther to compleyn us, eyther elles to suffre oure devout place falle and perysche in oure dayis, qwyche hath been so longe tyme wrongfully oppressid be plee for oure beste moste substancial lyvelode, so that oure goode and holsom modyr, that was abbesse, is so weryd and brokyn with thowt that sche is overthrowyn with daily seeknes, unhabill to occupie the offiz, and we compellyd agens oure wille, gyf it might odyrvyse a been, to chese anodyr, be the qwyche eleccioun aftr our custume we muste paye to the bischope of Lyncolne xx marke and to the bischope of Norwych as myche, and as to the payment of the bishope of Lyncolne, we be so streytly boundyn that the seyde lorde may streyne oure goods of the wyche we have oure necessary sustenance, and nowt only we be thuse putte in discomforte and hevynesse, but also oure jeuells qwyche were ordeynid of our fyrste fundacion to araye oure chyrche, and to sterve usse and provoke others to worschipe God, and to have oure benefactoris in more fresche remembraunz, are now for nede leyde in morgage, and sume loste for ever, and others in haste lyke to be loste, and yerto oure placys besyde all this misery are so far decayed be non reparacion, that we may nowt wele repayre yem ageen, and so owr tenants are the more pore, and ye wersse yer [the worser] may paye to us ye dettez of yeyr fermes; and reverent syr, i beynge ful symple and zonge of age, and chosin to be abbesse of yis wrongfullye oppressid place, God knowt ful myche agens my will, in my compleynt making to God I was putt in mynde of the goods that been in zoure hands, and also of zure holsom and good disposicion, qwyche

¹ Vol. II. pp. 142, 143, Lond. 1789. Blomefield's MSS. are among the Gough Papers in the Bodleian Library, Oxford.

gave me a gret corage to make my petyseion to zou for the recovere of ower pore place, besechyng zour goodnesse to consydre how we be closyd withynne the ston wallys, and may nonodyrvyse speke with zou but only be wrytyng, and the rathur socour us for owr lord's love, with sweche goods as we may continue styлле the servants of ihu, and odyr aftyr us in lyke wyse, the qwyche we wolde thynke to us as a newe fundacon, and so in our suffrages we wolde annexe the sowle of that worthy knyght syr John Fastolff, and swyche odyr as ze will desyr unto the soule of owre blyssid foundatrice; and worschipfull syr, [it] is more esy as zeet to releve us as up azeen yan to belde a newe place, qwyche i truste veryli ze wolde doo, and zif ze knewe the blyssid dispocission of my weel disposyd modris and sustris, be qwos goode cons[ol]acon i trust in ihu to have of zou sume socour and comfort now at my most hevy begynnynge, and zif owre lord wolde move zour hert to see owre pore place, i trust verily to god we shoulde have zou and zours ever aftyr in good remembraunz.

The brynger of thys symple lettre, wrytin in greete hevynes hath experience of all owre inportable hurtys before rehersyd, the qwyche trewly was the cause that he wolde of his owne coostis be messenger: our blyssid lord reward him therefore, qwyche ever preserve zou and zours body and soule in goodnesse for hise gret mercy. Wrytyn at denneye the last daye of januer.

Zour pore bedewoman jone
keteryche abbesse of Denneye.

Endorsed :

To the right worschipfull gentilman, parston,
Executur to syr John Fastolf.

This same lady must be the Joan, who with the sisters presented John Cokefield, L.B. to the vicarage of Histon St Andrew¹, 12th Aug. 1459, and, in 1464, John Garthwhait, chaplain,

¹ St Andrew appears to have been especially honoured in and about Cambridge, as we may judge from the many churches dedicated

on Cokefield's resignation; and 15th May, 1465, Gerard Skypwith¹, B.D. fellow of Pembroke College, to the vicarage of Eltisley. 3rd Jan. 1465-6, William Gray, bishop of Ely, granted to brother Thomas Trumpington, D.D. then president of Denney, a licence to marry in the conventual church William Keterich, junior, seemingly, a nephew of the abbess, and Marian Hall (*duos familiares domesticos monasterii*), so that the church or curate of Waterbeach received no injury (by establishing a precedent), and that the banns were published regularly. Dr Trumpington² was presented at a court held 20 Edw. IV. [1480], and fined *iijs. iiij^d*. for putting a wall beyond the common path between a certain toft and tenement, and excluding the tenants of the manor. 3rd Feb. 1468-9, [8 Edw. IV.], for much kindness frequently shewn to the convent (*dilectionis benevolenciam, crebris ostensam indiciis*), by John Whaddon, prior of Barnwell, (who during four years had held the vicarage of Waterbeach,) and the brethren, Joan Keteryche and the sisters issue a formal instrument allowing the former, both living and dead, a share in their prayers³,

to him, one-third within a range of five miles. Histon St Andrew, in 1517, paid $9\frac{1}{4}d.$ for Ely Farthings, Histon St Etheldreda $18d.$, and Waterbeach $6\frac{1}{4}d.$ This payment, of course, bears upon the size of the several parishes, 9 Hen. VIII. Our parish then contained twenty-five dwelling-houses; or, reckoning five to a family, 125 inhabitants. 'At this daie [1590], the Byshop of Elie hath out of everie parish in Cambridgeshire a certeine Tribute called Elie Farthings, or smoke Farthings, which the churchwardens do levie, according to y^e number of houses, or else of chimneys, that be in the parishe.' Ely Farthings were paid, at least as early as 1154, and as late as 1634. They went to the support of the altar of St Peter in Ely Cathedral. Baker's *MSS.* Vol. xxix. p. 326; Caius Coll. *MSS.* No. 170, p. 79.

¹ See Messrs. Cooper's *Athen. Cantab.* p. 6.

² Dr Landbeche is presented at a court held 15 Edw. IV. [1475], on account of his cattle trespassing in the wheat.

³ In 1523 Peter Nobys, who had been rector of Landbeach, and master of Corpus Christi College, bought this and other privileges of the prior and monks of Thetford, in Norfolk, to which place he retired on resigning his appointments. Martyn's *Hist. of Thetford*, p. 143; Append. p. 50.

vigils, fastings, &c., in like manner as their own brethren and sisters, friends and benefactors¹.

She was one of the sisters of William Keryche (Keteryche) of Landbeach. Her brother, by will dated 20th Oct. 1479, bequeathed to the abbess and convent of Denney, to keep an anniversary² for him, his parents, and benefactors, the sum of lxxj^s. viij^d.; and, if his daughter Katherine should die before she came of age, the farther sum of viij^{li}. vj^s. viij^d. allotted for her fortune. Amongst the debts ordered to be paid were x^{li}. owing by his father to the abbess and convent, with lx^s. by himself, for the profession and admission of his daughter the lady Elyzabeth into their order. He likewise desired that the lady abbess of Denney, and the lady Agnes Keryche, his sisters, as well as his daughter the lady Elyzabeth Keryche, should have xl^s. out of his effects; then he appoints Marona his wife one of his executors. A member of this family was early possessed of a share of the manor of Brays in Landbeach. Possibly, the Rev. Thomas Kerrich, mentioned on p. 70, was a descendant from the same family.

The Lady Elizabeth Throckmorton, as before noticed, was abbess at least from 1512 to 1539. She and the sisters leased out the demesne lands belonging to the convent, together with the manor, 6th Oct. 1520, for the space of fifteen years from Lady-day last past, to Rich. Saggeborowe, if he should so long live, paying yearly the third bushel of all manner of greynes, half y^e straw, and one third of the chaff, they leaving the stocke, and corn growing, on the premises, with implements of husbandry, to be replaced according to the value, at the expiration of the lease. This lease was to be carried on afterwards for a similar term, if they did not take the lands into their own occupation. From what subsequently appears, when the conventual property came into the hands of Edward Elrington, it

¹ Baker's MSS. Vol. ix. p. 152.

² The year's mind or obit. See Rock's *Church of our Fathers*, Vol. III. Part 1, pp. 97, &c.

is likely that a portion of these lands, amounting to two hundred acres, was excepted from the operation of the lease, since the abbess and nuns still continued to let land. The granting of the lease would seem to have been the signal for several acts of violence, and, probably, from relatives. At a court held 12th Oct. 12 Hen. VIII. [1520], John Sagburgh was presented for that hee entred by force into the mannor of Denny, and xvij cattle and a cart ymponded did take and drive away. Fined iij^s. iij^d. Richard Foote was presented for breaking the pound, and taking out his cattle. Same fine. John Rogers, Symon Greene, and others, were presented for entring into severall pastures of the lordes and tenantes, and wth their weapons mowing the fens, and cutting and treading downe the same. Fined xx^s.

We also perceive Elizabeth Throckmorton, abbess of Denney, joining with the convent in presenting Robert Chekeryng to the vicarage of Histon St Andrew, on the resignation, 5th Oct. 1535, of John Poorey, B.D. fellow of Corpus Christi College, who afterwards became master of his college, rector of Landbeach, and successively canon of Ely, Canterbury, and Westminster¹.

Strype records a circumstance², which must be connected with the abbess Elizabeth Throckmorton. According to him one Humphrey Monmouth, a wealthy citizen of London, and great favourer of the Reformation, was put in prison in 1528 for distributing Tyndale's books, and for other practices of that sort, whence, on 19th May, he sent a petition to cardinal Wolsey for his release. In this petition, among other exculpations of himself, he says that the abbess of Deneye, desiring to borrow Tyndale's book called *Enchiridion*³, he had

¹ See *Correspondence of Parker*, pp. 63, 64, 358; and Messrs. Cooper's *Athen. Cantab.* pp. 320, 321.

² *Eccles. Memor.* Vol. I. pp. 316, &c.; Append. pp. 245, &c. edit. 1721. See Latimer's *Works*, Vol. I. pp. 440, 441, Park. Soc. for a very interesting anecdote of his great friend Monmouth.

³ Tyndale's translation of a work by Erasmus, entitled *Enchiridion*

sent it to her, and that he had expended on that religious house more than fifty pounds sterling. In the Latin letter, to which reference will be soon made, Erasmus thus addresses the same lady:—Te, religiosissima domina, quæ virgineæ sodalitatis curam agis, nihil arbitror necesse, ut hortor, admoneamque tui officii; gratulari magis liberet, nisi vel parum id tutum esset humanæ fragilitati, vel parum gratum tuæ singulari modestiæ.

She was of a respectable family belonging to Coughton in Warwickshire, where they had long been settled. Consequently, when driven from Denney abbey, she retired thither with two or three of the sisters, all of them, most likely, having pensions assigned them out of the estates, and lived there after a conventual manner until the day of her death, clad in her proper habits, and, so far as was possible, observing the rules of her order¹. She was buried in Coughton church. A brass plate, originally fastened to the north wall of the chancel, but now removed to an adjoining tomb of modern construction, bears the following inscription to her memory:—

Of your charite pray for the soul of dame Elizabeth Throckmerton, the last Abbas of Denpe, and Aunt to Sir George Throckmerton Knight, who decessed the xiii day of Januarpe, in the yere of our Lord God a. mccccxlvii, who lieth here tumilate in this tumber. On whose soule and all Christen soules Jesu have mercy. Amen.

Vivit post funera virtus.

The nuns, at the time of the dissolution of the abbey, numbered twenty-five. We know the names of but few of them.

militis Christiani. Tyndale's *Works*, Vol. I. p. xvii. Park. Soc. It was not a prohibited book. See Cranmer's *Works*, Vol. II. p. 288, Park. Soc.

¹ Cole's *MSS.* Vol. xxxii. p. 180 b.

Lady Isabel Wynter, the Lady Joane of Steynton, pitanciary of Denney, Isabella Seyntour, Margaret Bury, Margaret Cotenham, Isabel Wyne, Johanne Colcester, pitanciary, Margaret Histon, the Lady Elizabeth Keryche, and, in 1516, Elizabeth Hasleden¹.

Johanne Colcester and Margaret Histon had an acre and a rood of land in Waterbeach fen, called Lughalle, granted to them for life by the Lady Margaret Milly, their abbess, free of all service, 10 Hen. V. [1422]. The Lady Isabel Wynter, though resident at Denney, still possessed copyhold land, and received the rent of it. 5 Hen. VI. [1426]: Edward Bertellet takes to farme of the Ladye Abbessse by the consent of Isabell Wynter, one of the sisters, one Clause called Letyszerd, To hould duringe the Tearme of Tenne yeares payeing Twelve shillinges yearlye rent to the s^d Isabell Wynter. The close may have contained three or four acres.

About 1516, Erasmus, who was then resident in Queens' College, who for four years had been Lady Margaret's Professor of Divinity, and whose great friend and companion in study, William Gonell², was a native of the adjoining parish of Landbeach, wrote a consolatory letter to the nuns of Denney, at that time under some difficulties. In this letter, the whole of which is little more than a homily on Isai. xxx. 15—In silentio et spe erit fortitudo vestra (Vulg.)—Erasmus lays down excellent rules for resignation and religious improvement, exhorting them, at

¹ A family of the name of Hasleden very early possessed property in Meldreth and Guilden Morden. Francis Hasilden, Esq., of Steeple Morden, was high sheriff of the county in 1509, and 1520.

² The family of Gonell had been long settled at Landbeach, and so continued. Matthew Gonell, the last of the male line, died there a bachelor in 1793. William Gonell was tutor in Sir Thomas More's family, and afterwards belonged to the household of Cardinal Wolsey. He was collated by Bishop West to the rectory of Conington, 6th Sept. 1517, where he lived until his death in 1560. He is reported to Parker in 1548 as making one of a dignified university party, who were at a 'drinking, which was with joles of fresh salmon,' &c. *Parker's Correspondence*, p. 38; *Knight's Life of Erasmus*, pp. 47, 177, 178.

the end of it, to proceed in the virtuous course they had heretofore held, to make mention of himself in their prayers, and to remember him in particular to certain sisters belonging to the family of Lord Grey, marquess of Dorset, members of their establishment, to whose brother Thomas (respecting whom he affectionately says, *cui nihil negare possumus*) he had in early life been tutor¹.

Erasmus gave these ladies a good character, which, on several accounts, we might have expected, and which, no doubt, they amply deserved. A few years later, some at least of the nuns had become discontented with their condition, as we learn from the following letters written to secretary Cromwell by Thomas Legh, LL.D., and John ap Rees, or Rice², appointed by him to make a visitation of Cambridge and its neighbourhood. Nevertheless, we hear no complaint, such as they made against Sopham (Swaffham), that they found in the monastery at Denney ‘nother tolerable sorte of lyving nor good administration there, but all ferre out of order.’ In fact, the commissioners were able to report nothing more, than that the unsettled state of the times had rendered a small portion of the sisters restless, and made their religious vows a burthen to them.

Dr Legh writes :—And at Deny, also, there we founde half a dozen of full, [who] moste instantely desired with wepyng eyes to goo forth, amongest whome one is a faire yong woman, suster to S^r Gyles Strangwige [Strangeways,] which was and is maryed to one Ryvel, a merchant ventrer at London, with whom she had iiij. children, and nowe moved of scruple of conscience, as she saith, desireth moste humbly to be dimised and restored to her husbände. And so by this ye may see that they shall not nede

¹ Ibid. pp. 18, 176-179, 293 ; Append. pp. 46, &c. This Dr Samuel Knight, made a prebendary of Ely in 1714, whose son, the Rev. Samuel Knight, bought property, and settled in Milton, was not connected in any way with the family of the same name, who had farmed the Denney Abbey estate.

² See Messrs. Cooper’s *Athen. Cantab.* p. 536, for a character of Legh, as one of the visitors of the monasteries, drawn by his colleague.

to be put foorth, but that they woll make instance theymself to be delivered. So that their doing shalbe imputed to theymself and to no other. And theis at Denye doo importunately crie that they lyve here dayli against their conscience, and therfor doo loke for an answer of yo^r pleasure in that behalf. From Denye the xxxth of October [1535]. John ap Rees adds:— Although I reckon it well doon that all were out, yet I thinke it were best that at their owne instante sute they might be dimised to avoyde calumnacion and envie. And so, compelling theym to observe thies injunctions, ye shall have theym all to doo shortely. And the people shall knowe it the better that it cometh upon their sute, yf they be not straight discharged while we be here. For than the people wolde saye that we wente for no other cause about than to expell theym, though the trueth were contrarie¹.

On the lesser monasteries being dissolved, that is, such monasteries as had revenues below two hundred pounds a year, Denney, and, surely on account of the strict discipline and good order maintained there, was included among the thirty-one that were reprieved for two years, by letters patent dated 17th August, 28 Hen. VIII. [1536], to satisfy the discontents of the people².

The possessions of Denney Abbey at its dissolution were valued by Dugdale at £172 8s. 3½*d.*; but Speed rated them at £218 0s. 1½*d.*³

Soon after the dissolution of the Abbey, in consideration of 2500 pieces of the lawful money of England (marks?), a grant was made 28th October, 31st Hen. VIII. [1539], by the king to Edward Elrington, Esq.⁴, of London, his heirs and assigns, of the house, scite, circuyte, and precyncte of the late monastery

¹ Ellis' *Letters*, Third Series, Vol. III. pp. 119, 120.

² Burnet's *Hist. of the Reform.* Vol. I. p. 128; Append. p. 142.

³ See p. 110.

⁴ Elrington was chief butler to Edward VI. and queen Mary; and, on his death in 1558, was buried in St Peter's church, Cornhill, London. Ellis' *Hist. and Antiq. of Shoreditch*, p. 73.

of the nuns of St Clare, of Denney, in the county of Cambridge, then recently dissolved; and also of the bell-tower with the cemetery of the same, ac omnia messuagia domos edificia grangias orrea stabula columbaria stagna vivaria ortos pomaria gardina terras solum, as well within as without the inclosure of the monastery. He was to have likewise the manors of Denney, Waterbeach, Histon [St Andrew], High-Hall [or Eye-Hall], and Strode, with every thing belonging to them in the counties of Cambridge, Bedford, Essex, Norfolk, and Kent; the rectories, too, of Histon¹ [St Andrew], Eltisley², Byddenham, Roddyswell [Ridgwell], and Godarston [Gooderstone], with the advowsons and patronage of the vicarages of the same parishes in the counties of Cambridge, Bedford, Essex and Norfolk, cum omnibus et singulis messuagiis domibus edificiis orreis terris glebis revencoibus porsionibus pensionibus annuitatibus decimis oblationibus obvencoibus proficuis emolumentis et juribus quibuscunque, connected with the said rectories and vicarages. Indeed, every kind of property or possession in the kingdom of England, belonging to the late monastery of Denney, in villis campis hamelettis et parochiis of Denney, Waterbeache, Histon, High-Hall, Strode, Cantebrigia, Chesterton, Fordwere, Milton, Landbeche, Fenedytton, Madyngley, Gorton, Cotton, Paxton Magna, Rampton, Westwartyng [West-Wrattling], Knapwell, Cottenham, Hornsey, and Hokington, or elsewhere, as they were held by Elizabeth Throckmorton before, or at the time of, its dissolution, was made over in perpetuity from the last Lady-day to Edward Elrington fully and entirely, he holding them of Henry VIII., his heirs and successors, in capite, by the tenth part of one knight's fee³, and paying the rent of £20 10s. every year.

The rectory of Byddenham, given to the abbey of Waterbeach, 9 Edw. II. [1315], as well as other property, by Chris-

¹ Page 107.

² Page 108.

³ The knight's fee was fixed in England at the annual value of £20. Hallam's *Middle Ages*, Vol. i. p. 179, note.

tina de Kirkeby¹, was appropriated to Denney Abbey at the same time with Eltisley². The advowson of Roddyswell had been bestowed upon the nuns Minoresses of Waterbeach, 24 Edw. I. [1296], by their foundress. It now belongs to St Catharine's College, the gift of Edw. VI. The Lady Mary de St Paul appropriated Godarston to her foundation at Denney, 18th October, 16 Edw. III. [1342]. Grantesdon (Great Gransden) in Huntingdonshire was given to the abbess and sisters of Denney, 17 Edw. III. [1343], by Elizabeth de Burgh, Lady Clare, the foundress of Clare College. It was, however, in 1346, transferred to her foundation at Cambridge, which is in possession of it at the present day.

The advowson of the church of Cestreton (Chesterton) was, with other property, also conferred on Denney Abbey, 21 Edw. III. [1347], by the Lady Mary de St Paul. The foundress had obtained it from the abbot and convent of St Andrew, at Vercelli, in Lombardy; which same Minorite friars had likewise, in the fourteenth century, a house at Chesterton. For, since they were in great favour at the court of Hen. III. and Edw. I., they received the rectory manor of Chesterton, as a gift, from the latter, in the first year of his reign [1273]. They then appointed and endowed a vicarage, and may have afterwards rebuilt the church, which, like their own establishment, was dedicated to St Andrew. Baker³ has a copy of the endowment. John Fordham, bishop of Ely, states, under his official seal, at Downham, 18th June, 1424, that the deed had been recently discovered among the documents belonging to his see, *scrutatis archivis nostris*. The abbess and nuns Minoresses of Denney would appear to have subsequently parted with the advowson of the vicarage of Chesterton, as with some other of their possessions, to Henry VI.⁴, who bestowed the former upon King's Hall. 29th October, 1546, King's Hall itself, by an instru-

¹ Johannes de Kirkeby was one of the knights of the county of Cambridge, 17 Edw. I. [1289].

² See p. 106.

³ *MSS* Vol. xxviii. pp. 52, &c.

⁴ See p. 109.

ment under the common seal, was voluntarily surrendered with all its property to Henry VIII. This was done on account of the intended establishment by the king of Trinity College, which was founded immediately afterwards, partly on the same site, and to which that property was transferred¹. The deed of endowment of the vicarage contains a passage, which may well be here quoted, because of its having a direct reference to a note on p. 114:—Item, die Paschæ, ante perceptionem sacramenti, omnes parochiani, qui habent usum ignis in domo, tenentur solvere unum denarium nostro vicario, de quo unus quadrans collectori Domini Papæ debetur; alius quadrans altari Sancti Petri in ecclesia de Elye; alius quadrans cereo paschali in ecclesia de Chesterton; et quartus pro circulo cereo pendente super trabeam in cancello coram sacramento altaris.

Tanner's *Notitia Monastica* notices, that Elrington had other portions of church-property, besides what have been mentioned above. 35 Hen. VIII. [1544], the site of the Benedictine priory at Horsham in Norfolk was granted to him and Richard Southwell: so also, the site of St Edmund's convent of white canons, or the Gilbertine priory over against St Peter's College, (a cell from the great monastery of that order at Sempringham in Lincolnshire,) was granted to him and Humfrey Metcalf. These last two likewise obtained a grant of the dissolved house of the black friars, upon whose site Sir Walter Mildmay afterwards built Emmanuel College; and, in addition, a grant of a manor in Shepreth. Henry VIII. had given Elrington, besides, the manor of Strode, which he sold immediately to Lord Cobham.

As regards the parish of Waterbeach, the possessions which Elrington thus obtained were the following:—Certain free and customary tenements² held of the manor of Water-

¹ Cooper's *Annals of Cambridge*, Vol. i. p. 442.

² *The Cambridge Corporation Register* mentions under the date 17th January, 20 Eliz. [1578], eight messuages situate in the street called Peticure street, late pertaining to the dissolved monastery or

beach cum Denney: Firma manerii de Denney, with all its various buildings, gardens, pools, woods, &c.: the Geist Fenne¹: Barnard's wood: a right of pasture in a pasture or common called Winfold²: 200 acres of arable land, viz. Oxleyes, Highelinete, and Lowelinet, (all the above, with the exception of the tenements, made up the demesne lands): two closes called High Elmone and Lowe Elmone, 18 acres each: a field called Godfreycroft, 15 acres: Challeys Frythe³, 10 acres: a meadow called Oxpine, 20 acres: a fishery called Mere Were, in the parish of Stretham, with a cottage, ferry, Osier Holte, &c.: three Osyer Holts lying in Frythe Fenne and Tappyn Moore, called Asshegrove, le Longetrenche, and the Brodie Trenche: Firma Mansionis, sive Firme scitus Manerii de Waterbeche, with its dove-cote, lands, &c., as described on p. 98: a house at Cleyhith, called the Feyry-house, with two Osyer Holts, and two acres of meadow in the Holough, &c.: the fishing in Cleyhith, or Bechewere, water, and an Osyer Holt called Werehill, with two other Holts: a fishery called Garantre: an Oyser Holt called Crysten Holme; and a second fishery in Stretham called Foorde Were⁴.

The household property in Waterbeach produced £xliij. xvj. v. per annum. The landed property Elrington lost no time in letting or reletting to various tenants for the gross annual sum of £cx. v. iiij., and iiij^{or} Lupas vocatas pykes continentes in longitudine xvij. polices, ac duos lez Stycks magna-abbey of Denney, which, in 1553, belonged to Francis Wild, gentleman, and John Tebold, yeoman.

¹ Agist fen. 23 Hen. VII. [1507]: Ordrd that from henceforth no butcher come into the marsh called the Gyste Fenn by the appointment of any tenant, to see or buy any beastes; sub. p. vj^s. viij^d. Now, Joist fen.

² The same, which, 49 Edw. III. [1375], is styled Wolfollfield and Wolfollmeade: it was likewise called Wynfollfield.

³ Now corrupted into Chalice Fruit. A fen in Landbeach still goes by the name of Frith fen.

⁴ Peter Standly, Esq. possessed in 1773 a cartulary of Denney. *Collect. Topog. et Geneal.* Vol. I. p. 403. Inquiry has been made after it from his representatives, but it cannot now be heard of.

rum Anguillarum, which the lessee of the fishery of Mere Were covenanted to render in addition to his rent.

A portion of his acquisitions, consisting of High and Low Elmone, Godfreyerofts, Challeys Frythe, and Oxpine, containing in all 81 acres, Elrington leased, 12th March, 31 Hen. VIII. [1540], for twenty-one years to William Hawkins and John Soklynge, at the rent of £9. This rent, like the other rents, continued permanent. At length, the fee simple of the land having been sold off in 1614, the annual payment of £9 alone remained, as the reserved rent, in the possession of the crown. The reserved fee-farm rent, or royalty, was bought by Dr Thomas Holbeche, who settled it upon Emmanuel College, whereof he was master, by a deed dated 18th December, 1677. It now issues out of Low Elmone, one portion only of the original farm, which used to be known in the parish by the name of Causeway-end farm. Another portion of the above, the manor-farm of Waterbeach, let on lease for a rent of £12, has been already referred to.

Elrington did not long remain owner of the Denney Abbey estate; it soon passed again by exchange into the hands of Henry VIII. The property substituted for it by deed, dated 16th March, 35 Hen. VIII. [1544], was situated at West Rudham in Norfolk¹. Robert Chester gave in an account of the rents arising from the Denney Abbey property for the year beginning with Michaelmas 1544.

In Bishop Goodrich's register, under the years 1543 and 1544, the following entry is found:—Denney. Ds. Georgius Boydell capell[anus] Magistri Edwardi Elderton [Elrington] habet stip[endium] ibidem. Therefore the church of the abbey, through Elrington's means, and at his expence, was, even after the dissolution, still put to some sacred use, and it may be, for the advantage of the people dwelling thereabouts. It was not customary for monastic churches to have fonts;

¹ Blomefield's *Hist. of Norfolk*, Vol. III. p. 837; *Ninth Report of the Deputy Keeper of the Records*, Append. 2, pp. 205, 206.

since, however, in the yard of Causeway-end farm, which is at only a short distance from Denney, an ancient font now serves as the cistern to a pump, perhaps it once stood in the abbey church, and was connected with the period of Boydell's chaplaincy.

The demesne lands and manor of Denney, we see, did not form part of those estates, which Coxe, bishop of Ely, was compelled to allow Queen Elizabeth to retain, in exchange for tenths and tithes; neither are they included by Bentham in his list¹. The latter, when recovered from Elrington, remained for many years uninterruptedly in the possession of the crown, that is, until 1628, Sir Robert Chester being the first chief steward, and holding the courts; which he did so late as 24th April, 13 Eliz. [1571], if not later. The larger part of the former Elrington leased out, 10 Oct. 35 Hen. VIII. [1543], at the annual rent of £60, for a period of thirty-one years, to Thomas Brampton, alias Kyttye, John Kylborne, and John Lynne², their executors and assigns, they paying to the vicar of Waterbeach, and his successors, every year xxii^s. sterling³, as well as all the fifteenths and tenths. The lessees were likewise to have a certain right of sheep-walk over the two hundred reserved acres, part equally of the demesne lands, which he had let for £xvi a year to George Beane, John Pamplyn, Robert Carre, and Christopher Banks.

With the exception of the two hundred reserved acres, the lease of the entire Denney Abbey estate soon came into the hands of the royal bailiff, and chief steward. For we find this memorandum in a document formerly remaining in the Augmentation office at Westminster⁴, but now deposited in the branch Public Record office, Carlton Ride, and, apparently,

¹ Bentham and Stevenson's *Hist. of Ely Cathedral*, Vol. I. p. 194, note 5; p. 196, note 1.

² 7 Eliz. [1565]: John Lyne farmer of Denney presented for keeping sheep at Wynfould 3 weekes contrary to order: fined xv^s.

³ See p. 95.

⁴ The court of Augmentation of the King's revenue was established in 1536 for the management of the property of the sup-

of the date of 1580 :—In grauntinge y^e premisses there is to be excepted and reserved to her Ma^{tie} her heirs and successors y^e yerelie herbage and pasture of the foresaid two hundred acres of land for y^e flock of sheepe of S^r. Robartie Chester knight, his executors and assigns, when y^e same cc acres shall be unsown, or be with stubble after harvest, as y^e custom hath been used at anie time before for the flocke of sheepe of Denny Abbey, which same herbage and pasture is granted and demised, together with the residue of the same manno^e of Waterbeache and Denny¹, unto the same S^r. Rob^t. his executors and assigns by letters patent beringe date y^e xth day of Novembre in the fifthe and vj yeares of the reigne of the late kinge Phillip and queene Marie [1558] for term of lx yeares then next to come.

The same memorandum also says:—the manno^e of Waterbeache with Denny, with the premisses, that is, including the said two hundred acres, is of the clere yearleye value, ultra casualia, of £clv. iijs. v^d. This is a trifle more than it produced, when Elrington possessed it, the houses and land then bringing in only £153 1s. 9^d. Now taking the former sum, and deducting therefrom £12, the reserved rent of the manor-farm of Waterbeach, with £9, the reserved rent of Causeway-end farm, the fee simple of both which properties was parted with by the crown in 1614, there will remain £134 3s. 5^d. as the reserved rent of the rest of the Denney Abbey estate from that time, which exactly corresponds with the amount of the fee-farm rent subsequently purchased from the royal commissioners by Tobias Rustat, Esq.

9th September, 4 Car. I. [1628], the crown granted to Edward Ditchfeild, John Highlord, Humfrey Clark, and Francis Mosse, citizens and aldermen of London, as trustees for that pressed monasteries. It was from this court that several documents, which have been quoted, were procured.

¹ By the manor of Waterbeach and Denney here, and a few lines lower down, must be meant, as before, the whole Denney Abbey estate. See pp. 34, 77.

city, a large number of estates situated in various counties of England, in return for an immense sum of money advanced by the corporation. Among these that of Denney Abbey occurs. Shortly after, 11th May, 1630, Mr George Whitmore, of whom an account has been given before¹, bought the Denney Abbey estate of the corporation of London for the sum of £3650. This estate was conveyed to Humphrey Weld, Esq. of Lulworth castle, Dorsetshire, by Sir George Whitmore's son William, 26th November, 1675, in trust for himself, and his own son William, during their joint lives, and for other uses. If William Whitmore, junior, died without issue, it was then to be vested in certain trustees, who are particularly named in the deed, for the purpose of apportioning out the annual proceeds among a definite number of relatives, and finally, of selling it. At length, that gentleman having so died in August, 1684, and the arrangements consequent thereupon having been carried out, the property was placed by such trustees as survived, and were willing to act, under the guardianship of the Court of Chancery, which ordered it to be disposed of according to the directions of Mr William Whitmore, senior. Thomas Sclater, or Slaughter, of Gray's Inn, London, sole trustee and executor under Josiah Bacon's will, bought this estate, 13th April, 1708, at the price of £13,000, on account of Bacon's representatives. As described in 1719, it consisted of the manor of Waterbeach cum Denney, with the appurtenances, 25 messuages, 27 cottages, 10 dovecotes, 1500 acres of land, 300 acres of meadow, 1900 acres of pasture, 85 acres of wood, 200 acres of fresh-marsh, 3 passages over the rivers Grant, Cam, and Ouse, common of pasture, and free fishery, with the appurtenances in Waterbeach, in the county of Cambridge.

Josiah Bacon's property was all held in trust for the benefit of his youthful cousins, Josiah Bacon, and Elizabeth Bacon. The former died in 1717, unmarried, and not having reached the appointed age of twenty-four. Thomas Sclater

¹ See pp. 76, 77.

had married, 22nd May previously, Elizabeth Bacon, and took her name, as required by the will, under which he was acting¹. Elizabeth Bacon died 16th December, 1726², and, leaving no children, bequeathed her estates, subject, of course, to her husband's life-interest therein, to the use equally of her three uterine brothers, George, John, and Peter, Standly. Thomas Bacon died, 23rd August, 1736. George Standly of Hertford, dying 4th April, 1737, gave by will his right and interest in the property to his brother Peter, of Long Melford, who thus came into the possession of two-thirds of it. 15th June, 1742, a partition of Elizabeth Bacon's estates took place, John Standly of Trumpington having one portion assigned him, to be at his own absolute disposal; whilst Peter, his brother, retained the other, and larger part, consisting of what she had owned in Waterbeach.

Some additional remarks concerning the above-named Thomas Bacon will naturally come in here.

Thomas Sclater, having been educated at St Paul's School, London, became a fellow-commoner of Trinity College, but left the university without taking a degree. He did not leave, however, without giving a specimen of his classical attainments, by means of some Latin verses inserted in the *Academiæ Cantabrigiæ Affectus*, published on the accession of James II. He was a barrister, and great nephew of Sir Thomas Sclater, Bart. of Catley Park, Linton, who dying 10th December, 1684,

¹ At Bermondsey is a school founded by Josiah Bacon. The bust of the founder in a flowing periwig occupies a niche in front of the school, having under it the following inscription:—Josiah Bacon, Esq. gave £700 for Building this School, and £150 [a year] for Educating 60 Children of this his Native Place. Messrs. Brayley and Britton's *Hist. of Surrey*, Vol. III. pp. 189, 201, 202.

² She was interred at Linton, under a handsome monument designed by Wilton. But this monument was not erected until her brother Peter's death, who was buried in the same grave with her. He left a large sum of money for the purpose, 'that he might,' according to the inscription thereon, 'perpetuate his affection for a beloved sister, and his gratitude to his benefactress.'

left him much landed property. Though, on his marriage with Elizabeth Bacon, he took her name instead of his own, he was nevertheless commonly known afterwards, for distinction's sake, no doubt, as Thomas Sclater Bacon. He also resided at Catley Park, and represented the Town of Cambridge in Parliament from 1722 to his death. He was 'a very curious man,' immensely wealthy, and a great collector of books. To an observation of Hearne's, under the date 11th June, 1718, Dr Bliss, the editor, in 1857, of *Extracts from his Manuscript Diaries*, appends the following remarks:—'Nemo nescit Thomas Bacon quantum in literarum bonarum studio versatus, quam diffusa fuerit in libris cognoscendis scientia, quam perspicaci in diligendis peritia, quam indefessa in iis undecunque conquirendis industria,' says the prefacer to his *Sale Catalogue*, 8vo, Lond. 1737. His books were disposed of by Cock, the auctioneer, in evening sales, from the 14th of March to the 29th of April, 1737; when, as people in those days left London to enjoy the spring at their country residences, the sale was discontinued till their return to Town. It recommenced on the 31st of January, and finished on the 30th of March, 1738¹.

Peter Standly, then of Paxton Place, near St Neot's, died, 29th January, 1780, leaving the Denney Abbey estate to Henry Poynter, son of the Rev. James Poynter, rector of Southoe, Huntingdonshire, and a fellow of King's College, B.A. 1772, requiring him to take the name of Standly in addition to his own, which he did. 20th October, 1818, Mr Peach² purchased this property, and at his death, in 1832, bequeathed it to his widow, who, under the name of Lady Beresford, from her second marriage, parted with it in 1855, and 1856. A considerable portion of the land, if we refer to the description of it in

¹ *Reliquiæ Hearnianæ*, Vol. i. p. 406; Nichols' *Literary Anecdotes*, Vol. i. p. 250; Vol. iii. p. 616; Vol. v. p. 468; Messrs. Lysons' *Cambridgeshire*, under Linton; and Cole's *MSS.* Vol. viii. p. 133.

² Page 45.

1719, had been previously sold off at different times. The remainder then comprised 1583 acres of freehold land. Of these, 1486 acres had been divided, in 1829, into three large farms, called Denney Abbey farm, Denney Lodge farm, and Winfold farm; which several farms were bought from Lady Beresford by George Ebenezer Foster, and Charles Finch Foster, Esquires, of Cambridge, and Mr Joseph Toller, of Great Wilbraham, respectively.

The manor of Waterbeach cum Denney, with its fines arbitrary, was sold separately by the same lady at the same time, the Messrs Cuddon, conveyancers, of the Temple, London, being the purchasers. So likewise were sold, in several lots, Clayhithe ferry, public-house, and fishery, as well as the remaining 97 acres of land.

When Mr George Whitmore acquired the fee simple of the Denney Abbey estate, the payment, which had hitherto been made to the crown under the head of reserved rent, still remained payable, as in the analogous cases of the rectory, the manor-farm of Waterbeach, and Causeway-end farm. This reserved, or fee-farm, rent, amounting to £134. 3*s.* 5*d.*, was bought from the crown, soon after the Restoration, by Tobias Rustat, Esq., for £2097. 4*s.* Rustat bestowed it by letters patent, dated 22nd June, 1671, upon Jesus College, where his father had been educated, and for which, therefore, he entertained a great regard. He directed £12 to be appropriated towards the expences of the annual commemoration, the remainder to be divided, so far as it would extend, among poor scholars, sons of clergymen already dead, who had been duly ordained, and were, while they lived, orthodox, and conformable to the discipline of the Church of England in all respects, so that each should have £15 a year.

Tobias Rustat had been born in 1606, at Barrow on Soar, in the county of Leicester, of which parish, now in the gift of St John's College, his father Robert was both patron and vicar. He was created an honorary M.A. of the University of Cam-

bridge in 1674. He lies buried, according to his own desire, in Jesus College chapel, where is this epitaph to his memory:— Tobias Rustat, yeoman of the robes to King Charles II., whom he served with all Duty and Faithfulness, in his Adversity, as well as Prosperity, both at home and abroad. The greatest part of the estate he Gather'd, by God's Blessing, the King's Favour, and his Industry, he disposed in his Lifetime in Works of Charity; and found, the more he bestowed upon Churches, Hospitalls, Universities, and Colledges, and upon poor Widows and Orphans of Orthodox Ministers, the more he had at the Year's end. Neither was he unmindfull of his Kindred and Relations, in making them Provision out of what remained. He died [at Chelsea] a Bachelour the 15th daye of March, in the yeare of our Lord 1693, aged 87 years¹.

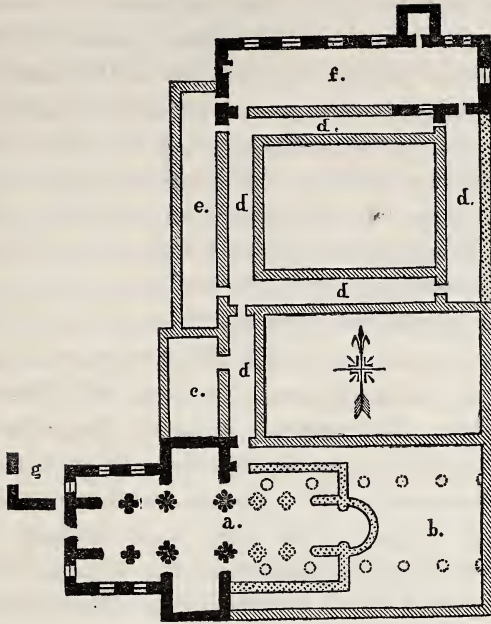
At the sale of the Denney Abbey estate by Lady Beresford in 1855, the above payment of £134. 3s. 5d. was fixed to issue out of that portion thereof, which now constitutes Winfold farm.

In the account of Cambridgeshire, published by the Messrs. Lysons, we have under Waterbeach a ground-plan of Denney Abbey, as the buildings may formerly have been arranged, and an explanation of the ground-plan; both drawn up many years ago by Mr James Essex, an architect of Cambridge, whom his contemporaries considered to be 'excellently skilled in the theory, as well as practice, of Gothic architecture².' The ground-plan on the next page is a reduced copy of his, very slightly altered. The dark shade shews the parts standing in his time: the hatched portion might then be traced; whilst that which is dotted, rests only upon conjecture.

¹ See a Life of this most benevolent man, by William Hewett, junior, published in 1849. He also left money to the University Library for the purchase of choice books.

² Essex' MSS. are now in the British Museum. Cole copied the ground-plan and its explanation, MSS. Vol. XLV. pp. 84, &c.

GROUND-PLAN.



a. The remains of the Norman church, erected by the Benedictine monks in the middle of the twelfth century, on their removal from Elmeney to Denney. This church was very small, built in the form of a cross, and had, as usual, its low tower over the intersection of the transepts. The four arches of that tower still exist, and in a perfect state, though completely filled up with masonry: they are twenty feet high, and sixteen feet wide. The bottom part of the tower now serves for a back-kitchen and wash-house. The nave was twenty-seven feet long, and eighteen feet wide: there were two arches in each arcade, opening, probably, into narrow aisles, which may have had small west windows, like the aisles of what is commonly called at Ely the Conventual church. One only out of the four

arches, a massive and very perfect arch, is visible. It is one of those in the south arcade, next to the tower, eleven feet high, and six and a half feet wide, and now forms the entrance to the wooden staircase of the dwelling-house: it bears a great resemblance, in the capitals of its pillars, to work which may be found at Ely¹. Possibly, the other arch of this arcade, or portions of it, might be seen, were some of the present masonry uncovered. Above the arches, both of the north and south arcades, were two clerestory round-headed windows with small shafts at the sides: the westernmost on each side of the nave is nearly in its original condition; but the two next the tower have been blocked up, although not so as quite to conceal them. The length across the church, from the inner wall of one transept to the inner wall of the other, was sixty feet, each transept being eighteen feet long, and sixteen and a half feet wide. The outward angles of the south transept are entire, apparently, up to their top, thirty feet from the ground. Attached to this transept on the west side is a piece of wall displaying two very small Norman windows, which may have lighted a staircase; the upper one is round-headed, the other has a square head. The masonry here is excellent. The wall forming the western front is pierced by a Norman door extremely perfect, a little above eight feet wide, and ten feet high, which led into the nave, and was the grand entrance to the church. It is rightly described by Mr Essex, as having at the top 'a round arch ornamented with a fret.' Over the door, he says, was a window, which however is now hidden by the modern buildings. The roof was almost in the form of an equilateral triangle. b. The choir was added about 1340 by the Lady Mary de St Paul, when preparing a residence for the nuns Minoresses, whom she desired to place on her manor of Denney. Finding the Norman choir (which

¹ The masons, who built the Conventual church, or, more properly, the infirmary, with its chapel, at Ely, may have built also the monks' church at Denney.

could not have been more than three arches in length) a complete ruin, or else pulling it down, in order to erect one more in unison with her taste, and more suited to its purpose, she joined a new choir on to the original tower, making her Decorated part ninety-four feet long, and so broad as to coincide with the ends of the transepts: the space across the choir between the two rows of pillars was thirty feet, thus leaving room for a north and south aisle, each about twelve feet wide. The south transept, the bottom part of which is now the principal kitchen of the dwelling-house, she may have left untouched; that on the north, now open to the roof, and a brewhouse, she must have substantially repaired, if she did not actually rebuild. The walls of this north transept are in a tolerably perfect state, as may be seen from within; so also is a window on the west side: at the north end is an old door-way several feet from the ground, to which stone steps would appear to have conducted. Two other door-ways exist in the transept; of which that to the west may have been once the means of communication between it and the north aisle of the Norman church, whilst that on the east, (which has not been marked on the ground-plan,) and still much in its former state, must have led into the north aisle of the Decorated choir. The Messrs. Buck¹ have given a 'North-east view of Denney Priory,' taken in 1730, which shows not only the eastern arch of the Norman tower, but the Decorated work, with its half pillars on each side, fastened to the face of the Norman wall, and forming the commencement of the choir. Mr Masters has done the same in the frontispiece to his 'Short Account.' c. A three-storied building, the uppermost story, most likely, modern, which Mr Essex imagines to have been the residence of the abbess. Some part of what remained has been taken down within a very recent period; nothing can at present be seen, except a portion of the east wall, and a door-way, which once led into the cloisters. Judging by the two views just referred to,

¹ *Antiquities in England and Wales*, Vol. I. Plate 12, London, 1774.

this building was joined on to the transept ; consequently, the north door-way in that transept, supposing the notion respecting the stone steps up to it to be correct, may have been a private door-way, by which the abbess usually entered the church. Another opinion about this building seems admissible, and even much more probable ; that it was the infirmary, the door-way in question being for the convenience of the sick : or, it constituted part of the dormitory. To the abbess would surely be allotted, notwithstanding the poverty of the monastery, a more dignified abode than this seems ever to have been.

d, d, d, d. Paved passages, which may have belonged to the cloisters : the flag-stones partially remain, as they were at first laid. The outer wall on the east side with its door-ways, the Messrs. Buck, if we may trust their view, found standing ; Mr Essex, on the contrary, could not trace it, and has therefore indicated its supposed position by dots.

e. Probably, a long chamber, in agreement with Mr Essex' notion, having two door-ways into the cloisters : it is now totally removed.

f. The refectory, like the Decorated choir, ninety-four feet long, and twenty-two feet broad, whose inner walls, as is still evident, were once covered with colour. This also was erected by the Lady Mary de St Paul : it has for many years been used for a barn. Its once beautiful windows are without either mullions or tracery, being completely bricked up, with the exception of the two quite at the north-east end, which have been engraved for this publication. In the Messrs. Buck's view, the refectory stands forth a prominent object ; all its windows along the north side, together with the east window, are represented, perhaps, contrary to the truth, entire. The same engraving likewise exhibits a narrow erection of two stories, projecting from the north side of the refectory towards the east, and of the same height with it. This erection, probably designed for a lavatory, says Mr Masters, has since been taken down, whilst a barn-door replaces the window indicated in the ground-plan, as adjoining it on the



INTERIOR OF THE REFECTORY.

west. g. To what purpose the buildings so marked, in front of, and close to, the west end of the church, were applied, we cannot tell. They are all, it would seem, included within the present farm-house, extending, as it does, twenty-six feet beyond the great church-door, to the south of which they stand, rather than to the north, as on the ground-plan. If we except some of this portion, with the outer walls of the north and south aisles to the Norman church, (particularly the former,) represented by Mr Essex' ground-plan to have been existing in his time, and the erection for a lavatory, all, which on that ground-plan is black or hatched, may still be either seen, or traced. One part, however, he caused to be hatched, which ought to have been made black, namely, the east wall of the building marked c, for, as mentioned before, it is even now standing.

The entire range of the conventual buildings was enclosed, it has been asserted, by a double ditch. Several ditches are to be seen parallel, or nearly so, to the respective sides; nevertheless it is impossible to determine with certainty, which of them we are to consider the ancient boundary.

Almost all the parts of the church shaded black on the ground-plan, that is, the nave, the south aisle, the tower, and the two transepts, constitute, though not entirely, a dwelling-house and offices for the lessee of the farm. The conventual buildings would appear to have been applied to the same use ever since the dissolution of the monastery. But formerly, as is manifest even from the views both of the Messrs. Buck, and of Mr Masters, the transepts and tower, with what Mr Masters, following Mr Essex, calls 'the abbess's lodgings on the north¹', were the habitable portions, (all of them having three stories,) and likewise a part of the south aisle; whilst the nave was 'converted into a kitchen, dairy, and other offices.' In 1773 great repairs took place at Denney, which Mr Essex

¹ The lodgings of the President, Mr Masters tells us, stood on the south of the church, and in his time 'were still remaining.'

superintended on behalf of Peter Standly, Esq. the owner of the property. A new and higher roof would seem to have been then put on the dwelling-house. For we learn from Mr Masters, not only that in 1795 the nave and steeple of the old Norman church still made a considerable part of the house, but that, before the late repair, they were 'very visible, and worth the attention of any curious person.' About 1814 the farm-house was once more altered, and rendered in the main such as it is at present, with a range of parlours, &c. to the south and west of the church, the tower and north transept being no longer in any way inhabited. It was at this time, that one of the half pillars stated above to have formed part of the Lady Mary de St Paul's Decorated work, was removed from its original position, sawn asunder, and made to serve for the two sides of a small gateway leading from the Ely road to the farm-house.

MEASUREMENTS OF WATERBEACH CHURCH.

	ft.	in.
Internal Length	92	0
Length of Chancel	31	2
Breadth of do.	21	8
Height of Chancel Arch	23	0
Breadth of do.	17	0
Length of Nave	46	6
Breadth of do.	19	7
Height of Nave Arches	14	0
Breadth of do.	11	9
Height of Nave Arches next Tower	16	0
Breadth of do.	11	9
Breadth of North Aisle	7	6
Do. of South Aisle	10	3
Entire breadth of Nave and Aisles	41	6
Tower (inside), a square of	9	0
Height of Tower Arch	20	0
Breadth of do.	7	10
Height of Battlements	33	0
Height of Tower	62	0

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Cambridge:

PRINTED BY C. J. CLAY, M.A.
AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS.

A HISTORY
OF THE PARISH OF
MILTON.

A HISTORY
OF
THE PARISH OF MILTON
IN THE
COUNTY OF CAMBRIDGE.

BY THE LATE
WILLIAM KEATINGE CLAY, B.D.

VICAR OF WATERBEACH, CAMBRIDGESHIRE;
AUTHOR OF THE HISTORIES OF
WATERBEACH, LANDBEACH, AND HORNINGSEY.



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OCTAVO PUBLICATIONS,
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NOTICE.

MR CLAY having left the History of Milton in such a forward state as to be almost ready for press, the Cambridge Antiquarian Society thought it most desirable to print it. The Rev. W. G. Searle undertook the labour of seeing the work through the press; and a common title has now been furnished for the Four Histories, which Mr Clay contributed to the Society's publications. The following brief notice of the author furnishes the principal facts of his life.

The Rev. William Keatinge Clay was born in 1797, and having been ordained deacon in 1823 by the bishop of Salisbury, became curate of Greenwich; he was ordained priest in the following year by the bishop of London. He was curate of Paddington in 1830, and of Blunham Bedfordshire in 1834.

In 1835 he took the degree of B.D. at Jesus College as a ten-year man, became minor canon of Ely cathedral in 1837, and was appointed subsequently Prælector Theologicus and Librarian of the cathedral. In 1842 he was instituted to the perpetual curacy of Holy Trinity Ely, and was collated in 1854 by Dr Turton, bishop of Ely, to the vicarage of Waterbeach Cambridgeshire, where he died 26 April 1867.

He is the author of the following works :

Explanatory Notes on the Prayer-book Version of the Psalms. 8vo. London, 1839.

The Book of Common Prayer illustrated. 8vo. London, 1841.

A History of the Scotch, Irish, and American Prayer-books; an article in the *British Magazine*, 1846.

A Historical Sketch of the Prayer-book. 12mo. London, 1849.

A History of the Parish of Waterbeach. 8vo. Cambridge, 1859. pp. 148.

A History of the Parish of Landbeach. 8vo. Cambridge, 1861. pp. 126.

A History of the Parish of Horningsey. 8vo. Cambridge, 1865. pp. 60.

These three histories were collected into one volume with a common title-page, as

Three Cambridgeshire Parishes, or a History of the adjoining Parishes of Waterbeach, Landbeach, and Horningsey. 8vo. Cambridge, 1865.

They were all published by the Cambridge Antiquarian Society, and form Nos. IV, VI, VII of the octavo series of their publications.

A History of the Parish of Milton. 8vo. Cambridge, 1869. pp. 108. This is the work now published.

He edited for the Parker Society,

Liturgies and occasional Forms of Prayer set forth in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. 8vo. Cambridge, 1847.

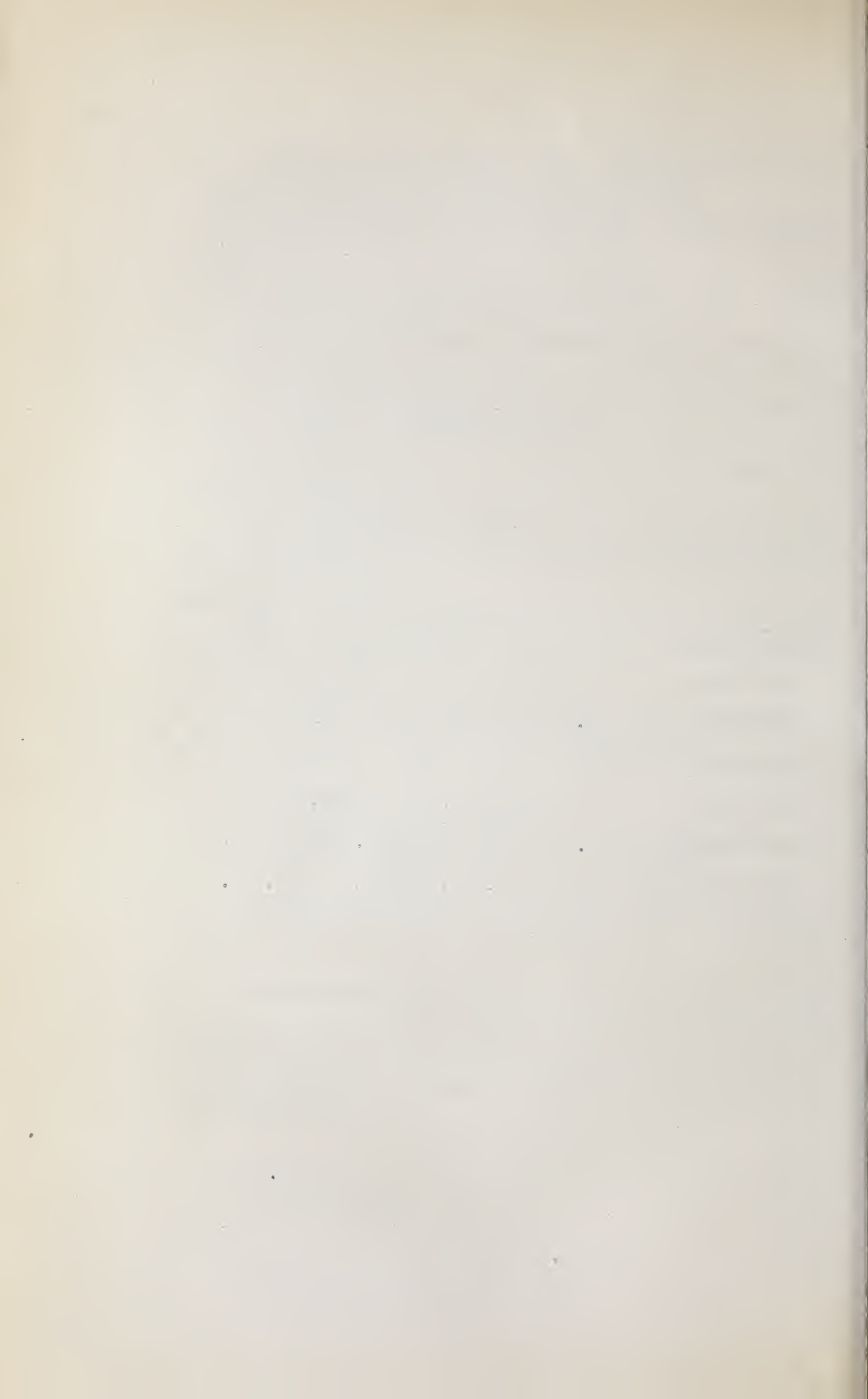
Private Prayers put forth by authority during the reign of Queen Elizabeth; with an Appendix. 8vo. Cambridge, 1851.

He also assisted in the edition of the Book of Common Prayer put out by the Ecclesiastical History Society in 1849—54, and in that of Wheatly's Rationale of the Book of Common Prayer, reprinted in 1858 by the Syndics of the University Press.

CAMBRIDGE,
December, 1869.

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PREFACE.

THE History of Milton now published is the last of this series. It completes the task which the writer had proposed to himself, when he commenced his labours. For his wish was to take in succession his own parish, and such other parishes in the neighbourhood, as were in more immediate connexion with it. Something has by this means been done towards setting forward a History of Cambridgeshire, a work very much wanted, and which might be at length accomplished were it entered upon with heartiness and good will by others. Every country clergyman has some portion of time at his disposal without entrenching in any way upon the performance of his proper duties to his own people: he might employ this to search out and record the circumstances of the parish over which he presides, and, if he did so, a large amount of materials would soon be collected of considerable importance. For, from the interest which each clergyman may fairly be supposed to take in it,

from the access which he has to parish documents, and from the ease with which from his position he can discover where the necessary information is to be obtained, no body of men have it more in their power to get together and to record what may tend to illustrate the antiquities of their county.

The last history, which the present writer put forth, concerned the parish of Horningsey. Since it was published in 1865, the church there has been so substantially repaired as to have been almost rebuilt: first the nave, aisles, and porch, by the liberal contributions of the incumbent, Mr Haviland, with the assistance of the owners and occupiers of land; secondly, the chancel, at the sole expense of St. John's College, the impropiators of the rectory and vicarage. These renovations have entirely altered for the better the general aspect of the church, and rendered it externally, but particularly internally, a most pleasing object, instead of continuing to be, what for so long a time it had been, somewhat unsightly as well as uncomfortable.

In the course of the alterations alluded to, a most curious discovery was made at the conjunction of the chancel and nave. For the workmen, when employed about that part, brought forth to view two piscinas, one high up in the south wall, which must have been on a level with the rood loft, another almost immediately underneath, and used from the pavement below: the former, which is square, belonging apparently to about the year 1400; the latter trefoiled, and perhaps a century

earlier. With these two Horningsey Church had at the Reformation five piscinas, and consequently as many altars in it.

As regards the lower piscina there does not seem to be any difficulty: it was connected, we may suppose, with an altar dedicated to some saint, and served by its own priest. On the contrary, we can only account, it is thought, for the upper piscina by imagining that it had been removed from its proper position, and put in later times where there was never any necessity for it. For it is a most unusual place in a country church for a piscina, neither does any one of the churches in the neighbourhood appear to have had an arrangement of the kind. But though unusual in the country, it is not so in cities. In a work on Conventual Antiquities we find the following passage in reference to France:—At St John's, Lyons, the jubé (rood-loft) contained an altar of the Holy Cross for Matin Mass: a similar altar for various masses was built at Notre Dame de Clere. So likewise of England it is said the rood-loft in Cathedral churches and minsters had usually an altar of the Holy Cross in it, and occasionally two altars on the floor.

It is wished here to correct an error in the history of the parish of Horningsey, on p. 40. The 4th of June is said to have been the day when George III. entered upon his reign: it should have been that it was the day of his birth. He began his reign on the 25th of October.

To the list of parish priests John Allenson must be added : he was suspended from his spiritual oversight of Horningsey in 1569, as we learn from Cooper's *Athenæ Cantabrigienses*, though he still continued to preach there. Also, the name of John Henry Howlett has been omitted : he became chaplain in 1838.

The writer's especial thanks are due to the members of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society, at whose expense his several histories have been printed ; also to the Rev Edward Ventris, M.A., and to the Rev J. E. B. Mayor, principal Librarian to the University. He was likewise assisted by the late C. H. Cooper, Esq. F.S.A.

HISTORY OF MILTON.

THE PARISH.

THE village and parish of Milton are now, and long have been, in the direct line of road from Cambridge to Ely. The name comes in its uncontracted form Middleton immediately, as will be explained hereafter, from the Anglo-Saxons. We do not read about Milton until somewhat late in the establishment of our parochial system; still we can hardly suppose but that its existence (and at length, as an integral part of Cambridgeshire) is to be assigned to a much earlier date. The *Liber Eliensis*, that storehouse of information, so far as its range extends, in matters of a similar kind, is the most ancient document, which mentions Milton; moreover, the account which it gives us is tolerably full, and by no means devoid of interest. We are thereby enabled also to see how property, in those remote times, was accustomed to be changed about, to suit the mere convenience of the different parties concerned in the transactions.

A very natural thing was it for Brihtnothus, the first abbot of Ely, and intimately connected in more ways than one with the neighbouring parish of Horningsey, to strive to become possessed of land at Milton instead of continuing

to hold what belonged to him and his clergy at Fordham. Milton was much nearer to him in reality, though not actually so in distance, what we are accustomed to call the river Cam affording an easy means of passing to and fro, as regarded the parishes situated close to, and along, its banks. Besides, Brihtnothus is distinctly stated to have been induced to fix his longing eyes on Milton *propter introitum et exitum*. His barge could readily land him, and as readily carry him away. As a necessary consequence of the facility of ingress and egress, the land there would be under the abbot's immediate supervision, and its then owner Ulf was nothing loth, for reasons of his own, to come to terms with him. The two hides were exchanged.

And now, having acquired, in his ecclesiastical and public capacity, about one third of the parish of Milton, Brihtnothus entertained a wish that his monastery should be put in possession of the remainder: this was on every account a very proper wish, and it was able to be easily gratified. By the liberality of a high-born Saxon lady, the monks of Ely then held just the requisite extent of land—four hides and a half—in the neighbourhood of Colchester. On the other hand the bishop of London with his clergy, the inmates of a monastery there dedicated to S. Paul, had become owners of a similar quantity in Milton, which made up the whole parish. Both properties were let out to farm; but, though the brethren at Ely might have no cause to complain of their tenants (certainly, none is expressed), the brethren at London were unfortunately in a very different case. These latter experienced great trouble in the management of their estate, and also great loss. Their tenants, we may suppose, were not over-punctual in paying their rents, and injured them in many other ways, as tenants sometimes will do, when their landlords live at a great distance; and in the days of the Heptarchy it was a very long, and a very difficult journey likewise, from London to Milton.

'Brihtnothus' abbas et Wine emerunt a Grimm filio Osulfi² duas hydas et xxxvij acras apud Fordham, datis xj libris pro his coram testimonis villæ et hundreti. Quæ terra cum esset cuidam viro nomine Ulf prope manus, et ille idem duas hydas habuisset apud Middletune, quarum multum indigebat abbas propter introitum et exitum, mutaverunt terras. Abbas itaque liberavit ei duas hydas de duodecies xx [acris], et xxxvij acris³ (acras?) apud Fordham, et ille e converso liberavit abbati duas hydas de duodecies xx acris apud Middletune.

'In eadem villa habuit etiam Thurketelus abbas⁴ iv hydas et dimidiam. Qui, eo tempore quo expulsus erat de Bedeford, petiit ab episcopo Lundoniensi nomine Ælfstano⁵ et a clero, ut cum eis posset habere communionem et partem in monasterio, ubi prius in præsbyteratu emerat sibi locum. Sed episcopus cum toto clero recusavit eum. Tandem tamen, usus consilio et patrocínio amicorum, hæretavit S. Paulum de iij^{or} hydis et dimidia, quas habuit apud Middletune, ut in illorum contubernio esse posset. Quod cum factum fuerat, ipse, quamdiu vixerat, tenuit eandem terram de fratribus, hoc est, de clero, dans eis quotannis inde xx solidos: post mortem vero ipsius, utebantur ipsi clerici illa terra, sed cum injuriosa difficultate. Qui cum multas injurias paterentur ibi,

¹ *Lib. Eliens.* Lib. II. cap. 31. Brihtnothus was made abbot of Ely in 970. *Ibid.* Lib. II. cap. 6. Several persons bore the name of Wine, particularly one at Wiceforde (Wichford), and another at Ely; which last must have been intimately connected with the monastery, and is here meant.

² Osulfus was an inhabitant of Girton, as his son may also have been.

³ The abbot did not intend to throw in these thirty-seven acres, since he subsequently wished land at Chypenham to be given him in return for them, and for money which he had lent to Ulf. *Lib. Eliens.* Lib. II. cap. 11.

⁴ For Thurkytel see Saxon Chron. under 971, in which year he was abbot of Bedford. For the ending of the name see *Hist. of Horn-ingsay*, p. 25, n.

⁵ He was living in 966 and a few years later.

concupivit tandem Brihtnothus abbas eandem terram ab eis vel ad censum vel ad mutationem, si forte habuisset tantundem terræ, quæ prope esset eis infra comitatum. Interea contigit quod avia Ædgari regis, nomine Ædgyva, cum moretur, dimisit cuidam nobili matronæ, quæ dicebatur Ælftred, v hydas in Æstsexe apud Holand, quas ipsa emerat a Sprowe pro xx libris. Tunc prædicta matrona, scilicet Ælftred¹, dedit illam terram S. Ædeldrydæ: Ædelwoldus² vero episcopus, et Brihtnothus abbas, totusque cœtus monachorum de Ely, tradiderunt eandem terram S. Paulo et clero Lundo-niensi pro iiij^{or} hydīs et dimidia de Middeltune. Dederunt etiam pecuniam pro pecuniâ: superabundabant tamen apud Holande c oves, et lv porci, et duo homines³, et v boves subjugales.’

We may consider, that the parish of Milton continued to belong uninterruptedly to that ecclesiastical body, which had thus by exchange become the proprietors of it. If, however, we go on to the latter half of the eleventh century, and to the testimony of *Domesday Book*, it will appear, not only that an entirely new order of things had then arisen, but that even King Edward the Confessor had previously secured to himself a small portion thereof.

‘In Middeltone Ralph holds of Picot xij hides. The arable land is vij carucates. In demesne are ij carucates, and it may be ij others. There x villeins with xij bordarers and ix cottagers have iij carucates. There [are] v serfs⁴. The meadow is iiij carucates. There is pasturage for

¹ This was not her only gift to the monastery at Ely, and of property derived from the same source. *Lib. Eliens.* Lib. II. cap. 47.

² See *Hist. of Horningsey*, p. 25, n.

³ Villeins in gross, or pure villeins, were therefore of no more account than even what we esteem the lowest kind of animal; they were all equally included amongst agricultural stock (pecunia).

⁴ *Hist. of Horningsey*, p. 7. Till within the last three centuries the word *villein* retained the meaning of a *peasant*. He was the prædial *serf* of *Domesday-Book*. Taylor's *Words and Places*, p. 443.

the cattle of the village. From the fen 650 eels and xij pence¹. They are worth altogether vij pounds. When they were received viij pounds. In the time of King Edward xij pounds. Of this manor Ailbertus², the abbot's steward, held vj hides and iij virgates, though he was not able to sell them, nor to separate them from the church, but after his death he was to restore them to the church of Ely. And iiij socmen under the abbot held iiij hides, and two virgates and a half, and they were able to sell them without the soc (soca)³. And one man of King Edward had ij virgates and a half, and he was able to sell them just as he liked (quo [modo] voluit).'

The *Liber Eliensis* names the abbot of Ely as at length the owner in the tenth century, on the part of his monastery, of the whole parish of Milton, on the supposition at least, and it is surely a true supposition, that the six hides and a half, which he had acquired by exchange, were, like two of them, all hides of the larger kind, or of twelve score acres. Now, viz. in 1086, we learn that Picot, the Norman sheriff of Cambridgeshire was the owner, and, of course, had been so for several years. The present is, therefore, one of those cases (and the neighbouring parish of Impington was another) where the ecclesiastical establishment at Ely had been violently pillaged by a highly unscrupulous man, which occasioned his character to be drawn in such strong and dark colours by the willing pen of the monkish chronicler⁴. The accuracy of this notion is also borne out even by the statements contained in *Domesday Book* itself, which men-

¹ The same sum of money is mentioned in reference to Waterbeach, but there it is stated to be de præsentatione, or as a present. *Hist. of Waterbeach*, p. 8.

² He is mentioned *Hist. of Landbeach*, p. 7.

³ A local court, independent of the jurisdiction of the hundred; a vestige, probably, of the ancient Scandinavian franchises. *Hist. of Landbeach*, p. 9; *Words and Places*, p. 295.

⁴ *Hist. of Landbeach*, pp. 8, 10.

tions in detail the disposal of the land in the Saxon times immediately preceding the rule of Picot.

Before this history is further proceeded with, a few words must be added in explanation of the several terms of measurement employed above.

If we go no further than to *Domesday Book*, we shall experience considerable difficulty in determining the size of the hide, 'the Saxon unit of land.' We possess however another manuscript, and to this we may likewise have recourse in the matter, a manuscript too, in respect to its writing almost as ancient, and referring with great distinctness and authority, so far as the Eastern parts of England are concerned, to transactions about land, which took place even two or three centuries before. The *Liber Eliensis* is indeed very plain as to the extent of the hide; and, whenever it is necessary to mention distinctly the number of acres contained therein it invariably names six score, or twelve score, acres, the latter being of much more frequent occurrence than the former. And a similar result will follow, if we endeavour to ascertain what the hide consisted of by employing as our guide the amount of land shewn by actual measurement to belong to a parish when in our own times it was inclosed. But the acreage, as given in the Inclosure Awards, must be taken, rather than that acted upon by the authorities of the Chesterton Union. For it will include the whole extent of the several parishes, whereas in the other case the amount of land taken up by roadways, town streets, &c. is necessarily omitted. The numbers given by the Union in the case of four neighbouring parishes are—Landbeach 2142: Waterbeach 5485: and Milton 1361. Horningsey, curiously enough, is set at 1592, being ten acres more than in the award, but the accuracy of the following calculation will not be materially lessened through this small difference.

To begin with Horningsey, *Domesday Book* assigns seven

hides for its extent, and we know the same number to have been attributed to it in 870. Now, if we divide 1582, the acreage stated in the inclosure award, by 7, we get 226 for each hide, which comes quite near enough to 240, as specified in the *Liber Eliensis*, to be considered satisfactory. For we must remember that in those remote times somewhat of inaccuracy could hardly avoid entering into the measurement, and that then, and long afterwards, the acre even was to some extent an uncertain quantity. Again, in the case of Landbeach, Picot, according to *Domesday Book*, had six hides, and the king's cartwrights five, eleven in all. But this parish was, at the inclosure, authoritatively declared to contain 2207 acres, which being divided by eleven makes the hide to consist of almost exactly 200.

As regards Waterbeach no definite number of hides is stated, nor could this well have occurred, because in the eleventh century, more even than recently, so large a part of the parish was constantly in a fenny and marshy state. Still also here the hide of twelve score acres, or thereabouts, gives a result which accords better than the smaller hide would¹ with its circumstances, inasmuch as it allots 370 acres to the southern, and 1068 to the northern part, thus making a fair division between the village with what pertained to it, and that district, which has long gone, and continues to go, by its own name of Denney. Besides, if to the above numbers are added the quantity of land brought into cultivation at the time of the inclosure together with North fen and the roadways, etc., the whole acreage of Waterbeach will be found to approximate very closely to that given in the award², and therefore to furnish a strong argument favourable to the accuracy of the present mode of calculation.

¹ Cole, with a distinct reference to the southern part of the parish, does, however, make mention of a hide of vj^x acres. Vol. XLVIII. p. 114.

² *Hist. of Waterbeach*, pp. 7, 9, 24, 25.

At length we come to Milton. The extract already printed from the *Liber Eliensis* names six hides and a half in connexion with this parish, and, it is hardly possible not to suppose, as the entire extent of its land. On the contrary *Domesday Book* ascribes twelve hides to Milton; whilst the inclosure award states the acreage to be 1378. The earlier and larger hide therefore would contain exactly 212 acres; the later and smaller hide, with which we are in this case chiefly concerned, 115. Thus, when we read in one of the old field-books of Landbeach that 110 acres made a hide, the remark was applicable to Milton, rather than to that parish, to which the comparatively recent writer meant, we may presume, to apply it.

Of course, in these several calculations the hide is deemed to be a certain integral portion of each parish whatever the nature of the soil included in it might be, though some persons affirm (but without taking into consideration what a large tract of land 240 or even 120 acres are, and with no authority from the meaning of the word, which appears to refer to the thong used in measuring it off), that the hide only comprised arable land, and was termed a plough-land from being as much as one plough with its team could cultivate in a year.

The next term to be examined is the Norman carucate from caruca, a *plough*. This has also been styled, and very naturally, too, a plough-land for the reason just mentioned, a reason which is surely not justified in the case of the hide, whether we take it in its larger or its smaller dimensions; one plough with its team, however good, not being able to do the work. How much land the carucate comprised in the parishes of Cambridge-shire is best ascertained in the same way as has been pursued with respect to the hide, by following which method we shall shew it to be a small and uncertain measurement. In the instance of Horningsey $35\frac{1}{2}$ caru-

cates are made to represent half the extent of the parish, or $3\frac{1}{2}$ hides; supposing therefore this calculation to be correct, a carucate was only about $22\frac{1}{4}$ acres. At Landbeach, on the contrary, one hide of 200 acres seems to contain five carucates and one virgate, consequently the carucate is there raised to something like 34 acres. From the account given us by *Domesday Book* of Waterbeach and Milton, we can determine nothing respecting the size of the carucate in those parishes, inasmuch as the whole distribution of the land is not stated. It is therefore very evident, as just said, that the carucate was not only an uncertain quantity, but that it was comparatively a small quantity, so that the words of the late Mr Cooper 'in Cambridgeshire the carucate was one twelfth of the hide' are likely to be somewhat near the truth, but then we must understand them solely in relation to the hide of 240 acres.

The virgate, or yard-land, like the two other terms of measure, is uncertain in extent, nevertheless we cannot be very wrong in supposing it to consist of somewhere about 30 acres. Indeed, it has been asserted to contain a quarter of a hide (that, namely, of 120 acres); and if we thus take it, and apply it to what is said in *Domesday Book* concerning the occupation of Milton in Saxon times, we shall easily account for the twelve hides there mentioned.

Neither can the different values assigned at three several periods by *Domesday Book* to the whole property in Milton be passed by without a remark, especially, when they are compared with what is therein also asserted about a few other and neighbouring parishes. It is, of course, possible, and indeed not improbable, that the general confusion, consequent on the successful invasion of England by William I. exercised a great effect everywhere, and thus among the villages of Cambridgeshire, which effect

may have been considerably increased by the fact of the land having passed from ecclesiastical to lay hands, from the mild rule of the church, to the rule of such a man as Picot the sheriff. For after this parish had been transferred to its new lord, it is said to have become deteriorated in value to the extent of one third. Moreover, that deterioration continued to increase, since about twenty years later the value was one eighth less instead of being, as was naturally to be expected, much greater, because, as time went on, and order was in some degree re-established, a more favourable state of things ought to have arisen.

Now we find, that a different result by reason of the change of owner took place in the neighbourhood. Horningsey and the southern part of Waterbeach (though the latter, a not very valuable acquisition, fell equally to Picot,) remained, notwithstanding the invasion and its success, at exactly the same sum as they had been set at on the death of Edward the Confessor; whilst the northern part of Waterbeach, or Denney, is reported, under the same circumstances, and at the same time, to have reached twice its recent value. So, likewise, on the completion of *Domesday Book* in 1086, it appears that the northern part of Waterbeach with Landbeach and Horningsey, had since the conquest increased in value, the two last-named parishes (of which the former, in part another new possession of Picot, had been depressed nearly a half,) almost to the extent of a third.

No one cause therefore can be fixed upon capable of suiting these several places: each one was surely influenced by something peculiar to itself. As regards Milton, a parish very near to Cambridge, the great change in public affairs may have first operated, and afterwards, perhaps, the poverty of the few cultivators of the soil. And we can easily account for more than the average amount of poverty among them in the latter half of the eleventh century. For close

to the south-west corner of the parish, but just outside its bounds, at the place called King's Hedges, still exist some remains of an encampment, notwithstanding the inclosure and the action of the plough. The king meant is William I. who is believed, if he did not make it, to have occupied it during his war with the Saxons collected together for defence in the Isle of Ely. Taking this conjecture to be accurate, the second deterioration referred to before in the case of Milton and the poverty whereby it may have been partly produced, are easy to be accounted for, and may be laid to the charge of the Conqueror's soldiers, who, no doubt, did not leave the neighbouring lands or their occupiers unplundered. Three centuries later we know that the poverty of tenants did throw land out of cultivation, and therefore out of profit, as any one can ascertain for himself by referring direct to the *Nonæ Rolls*, or to an abstract of their contents in relation to this county, contained in the first volume of the *Antiquarian Communications*, by the Rev. E. Venables.

A manor existed at Milton just previous to the Norman conquest, as we learn distinctly from *Domesday Book*, and was then held by Ailbertus, steward to the Abbot of Ely. When Picot wrested the land in the parish from its ecclesiastical possessors, Ralph became the holder of it under that unscrupulous and tyrannical man¹. What became of the manor afterwards, for nearly two centuries, cannot be traced, but at the end of that time we find it in the hands of the sovereign, since in 1253 Henry III. gave a grant of it to Eubulo de Montibus², who was to hold it under him. It would appear to have been subsequently in the hands of several persons. At last, however, it became the property by marriage

¹ *Hist. of Landbeach*, p. 10.

² *Cal. Rot. Pat.* 37 Hen. III. About the same time he had custody of the manor and church of Ixening (Exning) for the king. Roberts' *Calend. Genealog.* p. 58.

of John de Somery, whose widow Joanna, in Trinity term, 4 Edw. I. [1276], publicly acknowledged in court, that she had given to John le Strange of Knockin, and his wife Alienora, her own daughter, the manor of Middleton, with the advowson of the church, for them and their heirs¹. The Messrs Lysons, in their account of the parish of Milton, suppose the same manor to have fallen to the Le Strange family by means of the marriage of the above-named John, (who died in 1307) with Maud the daughter and heir of Roger D'Egville, just as her father may have become the owner of it by an alliance with the family of Eubulo de Montibus. The chief reason, they say, for adopting this notion was, that the Christian names of Eubulo and Roger became thenceforward common in the Le Strange family for several generations.

To enter minutely into the question of the descent of the manor in those early times is not worth the trouble and labour necessarily attached to it². Two points are quite clear, and we need go no farther:—that by the end of the thirteenth century the manor belonged to the family of Le Strange, and that it came to them by marriage. The pedigree given by Dugdale, and the declaration made, as Baker records, in open court, by John de Somery's widow, do not agree together. For Dugdale asserts the same John le Strange of Knockin to have married Matilda daughter and heir of Roger D'Egville, and John his father to have married Joanna daughter and co-heir of Roger de Sumeri. He also gives the Christian name Alienora to the younger branch of the family³.

The Le Stranges continued owners of the manor, and of

¹ Baker MSS. Vol. xxviii. 213.

² There is a good deal on this subject in the Baker MSS. Vol. xxviii. pp. 213, 214; and in the Baumgartner MSS. No. 21, under Milton.

³ *Baronage*, Tom. i. pp. 593, 612, 663. *John D'Egville's* name occurs as fighting on the side of Simon de Montfort and the barons. *Hearne's Collect.* Vol. ii. p. 418.

all that pertained to it, for almost three centuries. Richard Lowe armiger was found to be the owner 19 Edw. IV. [1479]¹; but we do not learn in what way he came into possession, though it seems highly probable that it was only in the character of trustee. For another marriage is stated to have transferred the manor into the Stanley family about the year 1482 by the union of Joan, daughter and heir of John, Lord Strange of Knockin, to George², eldest son of Thomas, Lord Stanley, afterwards the first earl of Derby, and who in right of his wife was himself summoned to parliament by the title of Lord Strange of Knockin, 22 Edw. IV. and died in the lifetime of his father.

A warren was made by King John, and attached to the castle erected by William I. in Cambridge. This warren embraced a considerable extent of country towards the north, and included within it the whole parish of Milton, together with other parishes as far as the Old Ouse³.

We must now go to the *Rotuli Hundredorum*, and see what information respecting Milton and its inhabitants we can obtain therefrom; this information is connected with the year 1279, and will be found to be extremely important:

They⁴ say, that Sir John le Straunge⁵ holds and keeps in the parish (villa⁶) of Middleton two knight's fees, in lands and

¹ Cole's *MSS.* Vol. xxii. pp. 148, 259; *Calend. Inquisit. post Mortem*, Vol. iv. p. 393; Prynn's *Aurum Regiæ*, p. 92.

² Queen Elizabeth Woodville was his mother's aunt. Collins' *Peerage*, Vol. iii. pp. 65, &c. Shakespeare mentions him several times in the fourth and fifth acts of *King Richard III.*

³ *Hist. of Landbeach*, p. 9.

⁴ The juratores, or the persons summoned to give evidence about the several parishes in the hundred of North Stow. John le Munz was present from Milton. *Rot. Hundred.* Tom. ii. pp. 446, 452.

⁵ Johannes extraneus (John the stranger). So that he and his family must have come but recently into England.

⁶ "Anciently a district, when considered ecclesiastically, was called a parish; when civilly, a vil or town."

meadows, of Symon de Insula, rendering yearly to the same Symon j pair of gilt spurs at the price of vj^d [or vj^d in money]; and he gives scutage¹ to the said Symon, and the said Symon owes scutage to the Lord Bishop of Ely, and the Bishop to the King. Also he has a fishery² on the great bank of Cambridge [on the Cam] which is worth xx^s a year, of the demesne. Also he has a view of frank-pledge, and the assize [regulation] of bread and ale from ancient times, and for a long while he has had a warren within the bounds of his land. Also the same John and his men claim to be free at all feasts and markets; but they [the juratores] know not why.

Also they say, that John de Montibus holds half an acre of land of G. le Knyt, and half an acre of land of Reg' the son of Peter for ij^d yearly paid to the same John.

Also the same John de Montibus holds
Free tenants of the lord, John le Straunge. xiiij acres of land of the same fee at ij^s vj^d, and aid to the sheriff, and scutage, &c.

Also they say, that Robert Maupudre holds xv acres of the same at ij^s iij^d with aid to the sheriff.

Also they say, that Ralph Gows holds x acres of the same at j pound of cummin³, and ij^d aid to the sheriff.

Also they say, that Robert Bercare holds j croft, which contains j acre and a half with a messuage and iij roods of land of the same, at iiij^s yearly, and iij^s aid to the sheriff.

Also they say, that John de Burewell⁴ holds iiij acres of the same at j pair of gloves at the price of j^d halfpeny.

Also they say, that Robert de Burewell holds j virgate of land of the same at iiij^s yearly, and vj^d aid to the sheriff.

¹ *Hist. of Landbeach*, p. 11, n.

² At the spot now called Baitsbite (Basebitt) ?

³ Pigeons were, it is said, 'a very favourite food of our forefathers.' Hence it may have arisen, that cummin, a warm aromatic seed, of which they are remarkably fond, became so frequently a reserved rent.

⁴ A John de Borewell was Vicar in 1348.

Also they say, that Luke Bercator holds iij roods of land of the same at j pound of cummin yearly.

Also they say, that Peter Templeman holds xv acres of land of the House of the Temple de Deneye¹ at viij^s, and does iij works at the price of iij^d.

Also they say, that Alexander le Scrutiere holds one messuage of the said John at ij^s a year, and does j work and a half for j^d and a halfpeny.

Also they say, that Henry the son of Gilbert holds j acre and iij roods of Hugh Thurgare for j^d and a halfpeny and a farthing a year.

Also they say, that Andrew Rokard holds j cottage of the same at xij^d a year, and does j work for j^d.

Also they say, that Stephen Bule, Henry But, Walter Correye hold iij messuages, which contain j rood, for ij^s and vj^d; and j work and a half at j^d and a halfpeny.

Also they say, that Alan Segyn and William Christien hold of the same one messuage, which contains j acre, for ix^d, and ij capons for iij^d.

Also they say, that Walter Faber holds j messuage for xij^d a year, and for his smithy viij^d.

Also they say, that John the son of John holds xv acres of land of the same for iiij^s a year, and iij^d aid to the sheriff.

Also they say, that Robert Anger holds j holm², which contains ij acres, for ij^s a year.

Also concerning ancient suits, and custom, and service, and other things. They say that the predecessors of the said John the son of John were wont to do suit at the county

¹ Of the manor of Denney, which in 1279 had not yet been joined to the manor of Waterbeach. See *Hist. of Waterbeach*, pp. 10, 102. Peter Templeman, from his very name, must have been in some way connected with his landlords.

² Holm is a Norse word for a *lake*, or a *river island*; here, however, it can only mean a *fen island*. But it has a more extensive signification; for of the Orkney Islands those not inhabited, and used only for pasture, are so called even now.

court in the time of King Henry [III.], the father of the king that now is, and it has been omitted for twenty years and more,—they know not why, unless it be through some connexion of his with the liberty of Ely (per libertatem Elyensem)¹.

Also they say, that John de Hardleston holds j virgate of land of Henry le Chamberleyn de Land Beche², and it is subject to taxation, and John himself owes the said John le Straunge j hen annually.

Also they say, that Geoffry Didon holds j rood of land with a messuage, rendering to John de Hardleston ij^s and ij capons a year.

Also Henry Knit holds j rood with a messuage for xvj^d a year.

Villeins. Also they say, that the said John has in villenage Geoffry le Gardiner, who holds half a virgate of land of the same, and gives as his rent annually xij^s v^d and a halfpeny and a farthing, and he shall do yearly lxvij works, which come to vj^s v^d and a halfpeny.

Also they say, that Alice Kille, Hugh le Maner, Walter le Husebonde, Alice Ridel, Robert Raysun, Peter Herbert, Margaret Goding, Robert Goding, Robert Picok, Geoffry Sarpman, Henry the son of Hugh, Wymar de Hogiton, Robert de Rampton, Matilda Weilot, William de Cruce, Henry Bacon, Robert Bachun, Thomas Cosin, Peter Blakeman, Mabile Fot, Walter de Haselingfeld, Stephen Scot, Adam Scot, John de Cotenham, Roger Scarpman, Roger Kille, hold each for himself so much land as the aforesaid Geoffry, and do in all things as the aforesaid Geoffry each for himself. And they render yearly ij capons at the price of j^d and a halfpeny apiece, and liij geese at the price of ij^d each goose, and

¹ Unless he is free of Ely.

² *Hist. of Landbeach*, pp. 15, 16.

iiij^{xx} vij hens and half [a score], at j^d a hen, and if they shall cart with their own team as far as Lynn, each of them shall have from the lord iiij^d, and they shall be relieved of their works during the same time.

Also he has in villenage Roger Scot and Richard de Rampton, who hold xx acres of land of the same, and both render yearly xvij^s, and for works by the same xij^s and a halfpeny; and all other customs and services are to be done as the aforesaid Geoffry in all things.

Also they say that the aforesaid John le Straunge has a croftman Walter de la Hythe, who holds j toft¹ containing j^r of the same, and gives as rent annually xvij^d, and he shall do xiiij works, which are worth yearly xxij^d.

Also they say, that John Langur, Alice Goding, Roger Caractare, John Frere, Richard le Port, and Alexander Scot, hold as much land as the aforesaid Walter, and do in all things as the aforesaid Walter, and one (each?) cottager of them gives to the lord yearly ij capons for iij^d.

Also they say, that Stephen Campiun holds j messuage for ij capons yearly at the price of iij^d, and viij hens for viij^d, and iij^d for his works.

Also they say that Robert Byne holds of the same j messuage with a croft, which contains j acre, for j^d a year.

Also they say, that William Bercare holds j messuage of Robert de Burewell for xij^d and a halfpeny a year: also he holds j acre of the same Burewell for j^d yearly.

Also they say that Mariere the daughter of Peter holds ij acres of land of Gilbert le Knyt for vj^d and a halfpeny, and it is liable to pay all kinds of taxes.

Also they say, that John the son of John holds ij acres of the same for vj^d and a halfpeny a year, and it is liable to taxation.

Also they say, that Johanna his sister holds ij acres, &c.

¹ *A homestead or enclosure. Words and Places*, pp. 158, 185. See *Hist. of Horningsey*, p. 13, n.; and p. 14, n.

Also they say, that Roger the son of Peter holds v acres of land and a half of the same G. for xvij^d and a halfpeny and a farthing a year, and it is liable to pay taxes.

Also they say, that Robert, the chaplain¹ of the manor chapel, holds xx acres of land in free alms of the gift and grant of the lord John de Someriis² for the souls of his ancestors—moreover [he has] two men, namely Andrew Scot and John Sarpman, who hold xx acres of the said Robert, and each of them does as the aforesaid Geoffry le Gardiner in all things.

Also they say that Peter de Woseri holds in Middleton xxx acres of land and j messuage in pure and free alms of the founders of the said church, whereof there is no memory. The same rector has of the gift and grant of the founders of the church—namely Alan Textor, who holds j cottage of the same, and pays for his works every year xvij^d.³

Also they say, that Agnes Frebern, John le Tayllur, Hugh le Batür, Alice Scot hold as much land as the aforesaid Alan, and will do in all things as the aforesaid Alan each for himself.

Also they say, that the heir of William Twet holds

¹ One who said mass at a small private altar, a chantry or soul-priest. Almost every parish had several chaplains. At Leverington, in 1406, there were no fewer than seven, and at Wisbech ten. Such priests, as well as the gild-priests, assisted the incumbent, and made up a choir-service on Sundays and holidays, when they used to sit in the stalls of the chancel. Blomefield's *Collect. Cantab.* pp. 199, 242, 245; Peck's *Desid. Curios.* pp. 229, 230; Rock's *Church of our Fathers*, Vol. i. p. 408; Vol. III. Part i. pp. 104, &c.

² The family of Somer held a Manor in Barton; also, as early as Stephen's reign, in Haslingfield.

³ The sense here is not very clear; but, judging from what immediately follows, it would seem that as Robert the chaplain had two tenants for his 20 acres, so Alan Textor hired the rector's land as well as the house upon it. Dr Whichcote records, that in 1656 the land belonging to his rectory contained 34½ acres, and so also does Mr Knight in 1779.

j cottage of the same for xij^d a year, and for half a pound of wax for the church of the same parish (villa).

Also they say, that Eustace de la Hythe holds j messuage for ij^s and j pound of cummin. Also, Walter le Gows holds j cottage for vj^d a year. Also, Ralph le Gows holds j cottage for vj^d a year, and both pay Roger de Berkeway.

All the before named under the title of villenage are at the will of the lord as concerns their works.

It must be borne in mind that all the before named, as well the free tenants as the villeins, who have beasts worth xxx^d, give to the aforesaid lord annually j^d by reason of a certain custom which is called Wartpeny¹.

The above extract has told us of two knight's fees held by Sir John le Strange of Simon de Insula (De Lisle). On 12 March 1288-9 these fees were given by Simon to John de Kirkeby, bishop of Ely, so that for the future John le Strange and Eleanor² his wife were to hold them of him, who represented, by reason of his ecclesiastical dignity, the former owners of the whole property. Sir William de Middleton had in his hands at that time the remainder of the parish; the advowson of the rectory however did not belong to his part, but to that in the possession of the Le Strange family, who alone were lords of the manor.

The manor was valued in the fourteenth century at xlv^{lib}, and in the succeeding century at xlvij^{lib}.

Before leaving the family of Le Strange it will be as well to refer to a circumstance recorded by White Kennet in his *Parochial Antiquities*³ respecting one member of it

¹ *Hist. of Landbeach*, p. 21, n.

² For the origin of this word, see Miss Yonge's *Hist. of Christian Names*, Vol. i. pp. 158, &c.

³ Vol. II. p. 233, edit. 1818. This work contains a good deal pertaining to the same family. Duck, *Life of Archb. Chichele*.

and his wife: it affords, also, a curious instance of the extent to which personal feelings were then carried in despite of religion, and even in a church. It occurred 3 Hen. V. [1415].

‘A memorable accident now happened relating to Richard l’Estrange, baron of Knokyn, lord of the manor of Burcester in Oxfordshire, whose wife Constance contended with the wife of Sir John Trussel of Warrington in Cheshire for precedency of place in the church of S. Dunstan in the east, London: upon which disturbance the two husbands and all their retinue engaged in the quarrel, and within the body of the church some were killed, and many wounded. For which profane riot several of the delinquents were committed, and the church suspended from the celebration of any divine offices. By process in the court Christian, the lord Strange and his lady were adjudged to be the criminal parties, and had this solemn penance imposed upon them by that exemplary prelate Henry Chicheley, archbishop of Canterbury. The lord Strange walked bareheaded with a wax taper lighted in his hand, and his lady barefooted, from the church of S. Paul to that of S. Dunstan, which being rehallowed, the lady with her own hands filled all the church vessels with water, and offered to the altar an ornament of the value of ten pounds, and the lord a piece of silver to the value of five pounds. A great example of the good discipline of the church, and of the obedience of these noble persons.’

When in 1340, money being wanted to sustain Edward III. in his wars with France, a tax was appointed to be levied upon the several parishes in the kingdom, £10. 6s. 8d., or fifteen marks and a half, were required from Milton. The assessment then used was very different from that at present in force, even allowing for the decrease in the value of money. For now the annual rateable value of the property in this parish is estimated at £3669.

The manor continued to be among the possessions of the earl of Derby, lord of Man and the Isles, until towards the end of the reign of Hen. VIII. It was then purchased by William Cooke, a native of Chesterton, who, from his eminence as a lawyer, became sergeant at law, and finally, under Edw. VI. one of the judges of the Common Pleas. Sir William Cooke was buried to the north of the altar in Milton Church in 1553¹. In 14 Jac. I. [1616] Edward Newman was lord of the manor. During the reign of the same sovereign, however, the manor passed into the hands of the Harris family, some members of which were buried, as the brass mural tablet still existing testifies, in the manor chapel. The father of the John Harris thereon recorded was the first lord. In 1670 Sir Paul Whichcote, Bart.², Dr Whichcote, the rector of Milton, and Simon Smith, Esq. were the lords. No doubt, they were only trustees on behalf of the representatives of the family of Harris. However, at least by 1685, they had parted with the manor (but without the advowson of the living, which had long been alienated,) and the remainder of the estate, to the celebrated lawyer, Francis Pemberton. He had been educated at Emmanuel College under Dr Whichcote, whose niece Anne, the daughter of Sir Jeremy Whichcote, Bart. he afterwards married. Chauncy, the historian of Hertfordshire, is the only author who speaks of him with unmixed commendation. His other biographers, with whatever party they are connected, almost invariably qualify the encomiums they are compelled to utter with some expressions of condemnation. He was eventually made chief justice, first of the king's bench, then of the common pleas, but was successively deprived of both offices, and went

¹ Foss' *Judges of England*, Vol. v. p. 298; *Athen. Cantab.*

² Of Quy, "who had a small but elegant chapel for his family prayers, which were twice in a day there attended." *Memoirs of the life of Mr William Whiston*, p. 370.

again on each occasion to the bar. In this inferior position he eventually passed the last portion of his life, and was the leading counsel among those who defended the seven bishops. Sir Francis Pemberton died in 1697, and was buried in the chapel of his house at Highgate; but afterwards, on that being pulled down, in the church of Trumpington¹.

The next owner of the manor was the Reverend Samuel Knight, only son of the Reverend Dr Knight, formerly Canon of Ely Cathedral². He bought the property about 1767 for the sum of £10,000 from Mr Jeremiah Pemberton of Trumpington. As advertised for sale in the Cambridge Chronicle for 7th June 1766 it was described to be the manor, three farms, quitrents, &c. In their award, when in the possession of his son, the commissioners stated the land to amount to 487 a. 1 r. 8 p. Mr Baumgartner, great grandson to Mr Knight, is at present the lord of the manor: the rest of the estate, including the modern manor house, was sold off no long time ago to different individuals.

Milton, in Cambridgeshire, as well as elsewhere, is a very common and natural contraction of a word which was anciently spelt in various ways, viz. Middeltun, Medilton, &c. Blomefield says of a village in Norfolk with the same name³—it was so called because it lay ‘on a hill surrounded with low ground, marshes, and water.’ Probably we shall not be wrong, if we suppose that in a somewhat similar manner, from the circumstances of its position, our village obtained its name, and then that such name, being extended to all the land, which adjoined it, and belonged to it, became likewise in time the name of a distinct

¹ Foss' *Judges of England*, Vol. vii. pp. 149, &c.

² Bentham and Stevenson's *Hist. of Ely Cathedral*, Vol. i. p. 263; Vol. ii. p. 132. Nichols' *Literary Anecdotes*, Vol. v. pp. 354, &c.; *Memoirs of the Life of Mr. William Whiston*, pp. 192, 195.

³ *Hist. of Norfolk*, Vol. iv. p. 645.

parish. In fact what took place in Milton may have been, and most probably was, the very reverse of what took place in Horningsey, for the parish was in this instance, at least, so called from the village.

Blomefield equally points out how he imagines the word Middeltun to have been derived—Mid-Le-Ton. But in this matter he is unquestionably wrong: it consists only of two, not of three words, both of which came from the Anglo-Saxons, to whom the village therefore owed its origin and first settlement. Leaving the word middel, as presenting no difficulty, it may be added that tun is one of those terminations, which, instead of being common to many, point out infallibly a particular nation. England is, and ever has been, ‘pre-eminently the land of hedges and *inclosures*.’ What in this respect it was formerly, it is now, and thus testifies both to the seclusiveness of character distinguishing the Anglo-Saxon race, and, it is also thought, to the advanced state of agriculture which flourished among them. Tun seems to have been the *inclosure* for the cattle, as barton was the *inclosure* for the bear, or gathered crop borne by the land. Soon, however, tun must have come to signify a few scattered houses, and eventually what we understand by a village¹. Singularly enough, even in the present day, ‘town’ is the regular word for the village in the mouths of its inhabitants, so also on the church plate, and in the parish documents.

The parish of Milton, which is on the very edge of the fen district to the south, is bounded on the east by the Cam, on the north by Waterbeach and Landbeach, on the west by Landbeach and Impington, or rather, perhaps, by Beach Way, the modern name for the ancient Akeman Street², and on the south by Chesterton. As regards the two old encampments, each of which forms part of the

¹ *Words and Places*, pp. 117, 366, 458, 484.

² *Ibid.* p. 465; *Hist. of Landbeach*, p. 3.

boundary between Milton and Chesterton, one called Arbury, and the other being situated near King's Hedges, recourse must be had elsewhere¹. For they are both in Chesterton parish, and therefore, like the Akeman Street, do not really belong to the present compilation.

Milton is in the hundred of North Stow, the division of Cambridge, the union of Chesterton, and district of Willingham. The village stands three miles and a half to the north of Cambridge.

An Act of Parliament for the inclosure of Milton was procured in 1800, and the award of the commissioners for carrying it out is dated 8th July 1802. The parish was declared by those commissioners to contain 1378 a. 2 r. 4 p., whereof 157 a. 1 r. 32 p. were then copyhold, though 30 a. 1 r. 7 p. out of this quantity were held not of the manor of Milton, but of the manors of Waterbeach cum Denney, and Impington. The public roads and ways took up 21 a. 3 r. 24 p.

By means of a general summary placed at the end of the award we are enabled to glean some information respecting the previous, if not the ancient, condition of this parish. At the time of the inclosure it had three fens². Lug fen and Backsbite fen were both of them in the neighbourhood of the river. The third comprised a district to the north of both called simply the fen, otherwise land fen. The first fen had its name from the flags, or wild irises, wherewith it abounded, and whose flower-petals were in shape like the *ears* of a dog. It was once divided into high lug and low lug. Backsbite, or Baitsbite, the name of the second fen, will be explained hereafter. The arable land was distributed into five fields, styled severally Backsbite, South, Middle, Mill, and Island, field. The reason for the names of four of these fields is very evident; the last name we may conceive to have arisen from the

¹ Professor Cardale Babington's *Ancient Cambridgeshire*, pp. 10, 73, 74.

² The Manor Rolls for 1640 make mention of Knaves' Fen.

presence of some fen island in that north-eastern part of the parish, or from the way in which it was bounded.

Milton possessed six closes: Dovehouse, Hill, Rye, Cherry, Picked, and Camping, close. The first two were near the manor house, the former of them being intimately connected with it, and indeed, of right belonging to it: the latter might be supposed to have derived its name from an ancient barrow on it, (which, however, has been recently taken away,) but Cole, as we may see in a note to the will of Thomas Campion, deems Hill close a misnomer for Hall close, because the manor house stood there. Rye and Cherry closes adjoined each other, the one containing about six, the other about thirteen acres. Both of them recal the names of articles, which are no longer to be found at Milton as regular crops, for rye has ceased in that parish, no less than elsewhere, to be cultivated in order to make bread of, and cherry orchards, which were once not uncommon in this district, no longer exist. What Picked close may mean is far from clear: this portion of land was in the neighbourhood of the manor house, and is now included within its grounds. The Camping close contained 2 r. 26 p.: it is at present a portion of the rectorial property, and close to the parsonage. It was annexed to the rectory, 18th February, 1652-3, the rector, however, was to pay for it an annual rent of six shillings and eight pence. Such plots of ground given, and set apart, for the playing of a particularly favourite game¹ were once not uncommon among our villages: would that every one of them had its play-ground now! Pound piece may have derived its name from the existence therein of the usual place of temporary confinement for straying cattle. Northward and southward lower doles were so called, because, instead of being the property of one individual, they were jointly owned, as the word doles shews, by several. Formerly the name of the whole plot was *leverdole* furlong.

¹ Forby's *Vocabulary of East Anglia*.

The earliest mode of communication by road between Cambridge and Ely lay over the Akeman Street. When the villages of Milton and Landbeach had been formed, the land traffic, such as it was, passed through them, at least, in part, for the old Roman road continued in use through the whole distance, until the inclosure of Chesterton parish took place, as a track for carts, and occasionally for such horsemen, as were very particular about having to pay turnpike dues. By the middle of the sixteenth century the direction of the roadway had undergone a partial change, for, branching off towards the right from Milton pond, it then led over Waterbeach meadow, so that the persons who used it were no longer obliged to pass through the village of Landbeach. This alteration, however, was in reality a trespass, or, more properly, an encroachment. For in a terrier belonging to Landbeach parish, and dated so far back as 1549, we find it said—‘*semitam ex permissione ducentem a Medilton Crosse versus Denny*’¹. Possibly it had been found by the inhabitants of Milton, that a road in such a direction was a readier means of intercourse between themselves and their neighbours. Through the lapse of time, the permission, originally granted as a favour by the owners of the soil, became looked upon as a right, and, consequently, when in 1763 an Act of Parliament was passed for improving the highway between Cambridge and Ely, this new piece of road from Milton Pond to Goose-hall² was therein authoritatively styled, (which indeed it really had been for two centuries,) ‘the Right Hand branch.’ Such however was not the opinion of Mr Masters, rector of Landbeach. For in the course of some proceed-

¹ *Hist. of Landbeach*, p. 33.

² Goose-hall, or, as it is in the maps, Goose-house, standing in Landbeach parish, was so named from a practice which, since the introduction of railways, has entirely ceased. For previously large numbers of geese were wont to be driven periodically along the highway from the northern part of the Isle of Ely to London, and here, next after Ely, they rested during the night.

ings unsuccessfully taken by himself and his parishioners to prevent the Act from being carried out, he affirmed that it was even then 'no road for carriages, only a sort of vague road (over commons and meadows) to Denney,' and therefore that they ought not to be compelled to render it fit for traffic. Subsequently, at the time of the inclosure, another, and a very short deviation from this usurped track was made through the influence of Mr Knight, the lord of the manor, who resided in the parish, and whom it chiefly concerned. The road to Ely, as we have seen, had by 1549 turned off at the pond, and begun to run close to the church, and just in front of what in recent times at least became the manor house. About 1801 a new direction was given to it at this point, the direction, in fact, which it has at present. The inclosure commissioners refer to this in the following passage of their award—'having set out in its ancient (?) direction the turnpike road called the Ely road, so far as the same leads through the parish of Milton, (except where the same passes through *the old inclosures*) of the breadth of sixty feet.'

The word Backsbite, now written Baitsbite, which has occurred as the common designation of a fen and a field in Milton, is a corruption. In the manor rolls for 1634 Basebitt furlong occurs, and in 1657 Basebitt corner. 'Base' must refer either to the low position, or to the utter worthlessness of the 'bitt' of land so called: most probably to the latter, though it might well take in both. The small house with its garden near the river, which all persons are accustomed to call by the same name, was built by, and belongs to, the Conservators of the river Cam, as a residence for one of their officers. It was an encroachment made to the detriment of the charity estate, but not at length without giving compensation.

A reference to Milton cross has been made. We hardly needed such a notice to feel assured that Milton formerly possessed one, since it would undoubtedly have been difficult,

before the establishment of the Reformation, to find any village without a similar aid to devotion. What, however, we cannot settle, is the exact spot whereon it stood (a point of inferior moment), by reason, as it would appear, of the non-occurrence of the least fragment thereof: still we know from a circumstance already mentioned, that it was somewhere in the centre of the village, and at no great distance from the church; possibly at the turn of the road leading down to it.

We need not hesitate to reckon Milton among the pretty villages of Cambridgeshire. It is very compact, and though not remarkable for any feature particularly suited to attract the attention, has an air about it which is pleasant and agreeable. The position of the church and rectory contribute much to the general effect, being just far enough removed from the main street of the village to be perfectly retired, and yet not so much so, as to become unseen or inaccessible.

The only house, which requires a remark, is what has for some time been called the manor-house. The lord of the manor of course always had a residence in the parish, though not exactly on this spot. Judge Cooke, who died in 1553, built here what Cole terms a farm house. He affirms, too, that it was built out of the ruins and spoils of Denney or some neighbouring abbey, which had recently been dissolved and sold¹: this may easily have been the case, and would account for the many pieces of worked stone to be found in various parts of the village. The present building is due to the Reverend Samuel Knight, and to the year 1772. Judge Cooke's 'farm house,' however, as it seems, was not entirely destroyed; it was only at that time substantially repaired, and rendered a fit habitation for the lord of the manor, whose residence it may indeed have been ever since the original

¹ See his remarks on the will of Thomas Campion.

and proper manor house had fallen into decay. Cole, who had come in 1770 from Waterbeach to reside at Milton, writes: 'I made choice of this place for my residence; one of its recommendations was its privacy and solitude.' Again, under the date 9th July 1772: 'I have seen no one all the time, except the squire of the parish, as they call him here, a rich clergyman, who called upon me yesterday morning. This gentleman having, about five years ago, purchased the chief part of the parish, has to my no small mortification taken it into his head to like the situation, and is now actually building a good house to reside in'. On his removal to Milton Mr Knight brought with him a variety of manuscripts written by Dr Patrick, bishop of Ely, by his father and others, particularly a large quantity of Strype's correspondence, now bound up in ten volumes, together with Bishop Patrick's own autobiography². These, by the kindness of Mr Baumgartner, who has been before mentioned, have lately been deposited in the University Library at Cambridge³.

The feast, which lasts a few days, used to begin on Midlent Sunday, 'being the first in the year;' that is, so long as the year was considered to commence on the 25th of March, Midlent Sunday very frequently, though not always, fell after it. Midlent, or feast, Sunday was 'vulgarly called Pease-porridge Sunday⁴;' just as at Waterbeach, the Sunday preceding the feast has always gone, and still goes, by the name of Furmety Sunday, and in both cases, of course, for a similar reason. Mr Champnes, the vicar, changed the day with the consent of the churchwardens, and it is now the second Sunday in May, because the village festivities, which

¹ Warburton's *Life of Horace Walpole*, Vol. II. p. 388.

² This had been printed for publication in 1839. There are some remarks about it in the *Memoirs of the Life of Mr William Whiston*, p. 353.

³ They are marked Add. MSS. 1 to 88.

⁴ Carter's *Hist. of Cambridgeshire*.

naturally attended upon the feast, were found to bring with them, especially from the proximity of Cambridge, too much riot and disorder.

We learn very little respecting the names of the inhabitants of Milton. Sir William de Middleton, one of the two lords of the town in 1289, no doubt, lived here. Thomas de Frebern, John Mapoudere, William Town, Stephen Herberd and Petronilla his wife, with Thomas Godechild, occur in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, as the majority of them had occurred a century before. William Foote was returned in 1433 among the resident gentry of Cambridgeshire¹. Richard Richardes is said to have lent Queen Elizabeth £25 on 29th May, 1588². Richardes is the name of a family frequently mentioned, as we shall see, in connexion with the wills and charity trusts of the parish. Some of the lords of the manor assuredly dwelt on their property, as we know Judge Cooke did and others in more modern times. Nor must the Rev. William Cole, the celebrated antiquary, be forgotten: indeed, it would not be far from the truth to add, that he was the man of chief importance among all, who had at any time made Milton their place of residence. For more than two years he had been curate to Mr Masters at Waterbeach. Not, however, liking the place because of the frequent inundations, and its many other discomforts, he 'repaired and in a manner rebuilt an old house belonging to King's College,' on the higher ground of Milton, with the intention of getting into it by Christmas, 1769, which intention he did accomplish at the following Lady day³. In this house, standing on the right hand of the road leading towards what now goes com-

¹ Fuller's *Worthies of England*, Vol. i. p. 245, edit. 1840.

² Cooper's *Annals of Cambridge*, Vol. ii. p. 452.

³ *Hist. of Waterbeach*, p. 17.

monly by the name of Baitsbite, and which he was wont to style his hermitage¹, he lived and prosecuted his valuable labours with wonderful industry and perseverance until his death in December, 1782. He left directions for his burial in a vault under the old wooden belfry of S. Clement's church, Cambridge, and for the building of a tower over it by way of monument after the decease of his sister Jane². This was at length done in 1821, and on the west front of the tower, in remembrance of the donor, and in compliance with his express wish, were added, certainly with questionable taste, the words, **Deum Cole.** Mr Cole embedded in the walls of his house several pieces of old worked stone, which are still to be seen there; and he records that he had in his hermitage in his garden, in 1775, 'a piece of black touch [stone] evidently the top, or cover of an altar tomb, workmanship of the age of Edw. III.' being, as he conceived, a relic of the tomb of the Lady Mary de S. Paul, the foundress of Denney Abbey³.

The population of Milton has nearly doubled in the course of the last sixty years, having been, at the taking of the census in 1801, 272; whilst by 1861 it had reached 494⁴. It still goes on increasing, contrary to what is the case in some neighbouring parishes, as we may judge from the new cottages which are gradually springing up

¹ *Ibid.* p. 18. There is a view of Cole's Hermitage, by Essex, taken 25th June, 1773; and a long account of it by himself in his MSS., Vol. xxxiii. pp. 386, &c.

² *Life of Horace Walpole*, Vol. II. pp. 373, 442; Cooper's *Memorials of Cambridge*, Vol. III. p. 266.

³ MSS. Vol. xix. foll. 125, 126; Vol. xxxvi. p. 153; Vol. xlvi. p. 377; *Hist. of Waterbeach*, p. 106.

⁴ 1676—85 inhabitants, 35 (?) families, 1 popish recusant. No dissenter.

1728—170 inhabitants, 40 families, 6 dissenters.

1782—224 inhabitants, 39 families.

here and there, no less than from the small Meeting-house belonging to the Particular Baptist connexion, which has been recently erected.

The Great Eastern Railway to Norwich runs quite through the lower, or fen, part of the parish, nearly parallel with the Cam, though no station has been built for the accommodation of the inhabitants of the village.

The present owners of land are—the rector, King's College, Pembroke College, the Reverend Dr Archdall-Gratwicke, Professor C. C. Babington, Mrs Denson, and Mr Gunnell.

THE CHURCH.

THERE may have been, and was, we may feel assured, at a very early period, a church of some sort in Milton; on the same spot, too, whereon the present church stands. Since the village owed its name, and consequently its original formation, to the Anglo-Saxons, it is natural indeed to suppose that the due worship of God was not neglected by them on their conversion to Christianity. Besides, the establishment for secular canons at Horningsey, which must have been founded by the beginning of the ninth century, was sufficiently near to provoke to emulation such owners of the soil as had the means of thus benefiting in religious matters themselves and their dependents. Members of that establishment may even have been leaders in the movement, and by their assistance, no less than by their example, have contributed much towards promoting the spiritual good of the inhabitants of so inconsiderable a village, as Milton then was. Respecting the existence, however, of any such public building (which could hardly have been of any other materials than wood and thatch), we know nothing: we must content ourselves with conjecture. But, whatever was the case in those primitive times, we cannot avoid considering it certain, that the tenth century did not pass over without the erection of such a church as has just been described, or possibly, of a more costly one. For at that period B*riht*noth, the first abbot of Ely, and the second founder of its monastery, an energetic and serious-minded man, had acquired, on behalf of

himself and his Benedictine brethren, the whole of the parish, and we ought charitably to imagine them not to have been indifferent to the interests of religion.

Thus, a church of some kind or other having been erected, Brihtnoth must likewise have become the joint patron with his clergy of the living. Besides, the abbot and monks of Ely no doubt continued uninterruptedly to make presentations thereto until the latter half of the eleventh century, inasmuch as from *Domesday Book* we perceive the land with its rights to have been down to the Norman Conquest, and, it may be, a little later, in their hands. Edward the Confessor confirmed, we are told, the monastery at Ely in their possessions and privileges at Milton in the county of Cambridge, and out of the Isle of Ely.

In due time, however, after 1066, matters changed, and very considerably for the worse spiritually as well as temporally. The abbot and his monks were ousted from this property, and compelled to give way both in the parish and in the church to a man, whom among themselves they were naturally wont to believe, and whom one of their number rejoiced to have an opportunity of describing, as a monster of iniquity. Picot, the Sheriff of Cambridgeshire, being a Norman, and of the conquering race, of course carried every thing with a high hand, and, having his sovereign to back him, thought more of increasing his own possessions than of consulting the feelings and interests of those, who fell under his power. He may really have deserved the language of Thomas the monkish chronicler of Ely, strong as it is, and been in some way relatively to the monastery ‘leo famelicus, lupus oberrans, vulpes subdola, sus lutulenta, canis impudens;’ still there seems to be as large a portion of abuse, as truth in the words. Without wishing to appear disposed to favour one, who, like his equals and contemporaries, shewed too much of the ‘animus Getulus’ in his dealings with the English, it ought to be mentioned to his ad-

vantage, that he built in 1092 the church of S. Giles in Cambridge, and endowed there a body of six canons regular with some church patronage, and with considerable revenues issuing out of the various demesne lands attached to his barony of Bourne, which also included the parish of Middleton¹. Still since he did this in gratitude to S. Giles, to whom he was assured and believed his wife's recovery from a dangerous illness was expressly due, he may have acted from a superstitious, rather than from a proper religious, feeling.

In 1086 Picot, we are told, had succeeded the Abbot of Ely in the ownership of all the land in the parish: thus he likewise held, as a natural consequence, the advowson of the rectory. Notwithstanding, therefore, the unfavourable character so constantly attributed to him, he may (at all events through the instigation of his wife,) have attended in some degree to the spiritual interests of his newly-acquired people.

The chancel arch of the present church, from its circular shape, is Norman, but not late in that style. Surely, the building of which it has long been the only relic, owed its foundation to him. He died at the very beginning of the twelfth century, so that there is no improbability in supposing him to have ordered its erection: in fact, no good reason exists for assigning it to any one else.

The right to present to the rectory, as just remarked, followed according to custom the possession of the manor; consequently in the middle of the thirteenth century, when we next obtain some definite knowledge about the affairs of Milton, this likewise must have passed with the manor from the sovereign to Eubulo de Montibus. Soon after 1253 it pertained to John de Somery, from whom it came by marriage

¹ *Hist. of Waterbeach*, p. 27. Queen Elizabeth, 17th June, 1560, granted to Bishop Heton all that her portion of tithes in Milton formerly belonging to the priory of Barnwell, worth £3. 6s. 8d. per annum. *Ibid.* p. 29.

to the family of Le Strange. We again read of it, 6 Ric. II. [1382], in which year Rogerus Lestrangle de Knokyn in Shropshire (who had died 26th August,) et Alicia ejus uxor, are declared to have Middleton manerium et advocacionem ecclesiæ¹.

Some time between 1291 and 1348, probably about 1300, after the Le Strange family had become patrons of the advowson, a great change in the management of the spiritual affairs of the parish was introduced. For the rector of that day applied for, and obtained, permission from proper superior authority to appoint a vicar to officiate under him; so that by this means two persons were instituted to the same church, and both, by reason of that act of institution, had cure of souls in Milton. In excuse for transactions of this kind it should be remarked, that the cure of souls was not necessarily connected anciently in the public mind with the profits of a benefice: so long as the duty was done, it mattered not who was the doer of it, the principal or his deputy. The rector was himself appointed by the lord of the manor, and he therefore henceforth put in a vicar or substitute to assist him in performing the duty, rather than to minister in his stead, to the people. Originally this vicar was little more than a stipendiary curate is now; his salary was uncertain, and he was removable at pleasure. At length 4 Hen. IV. [1402] this state of things was changed: for the future vicar was to have perpetual possession of his cure, was to be canonically instituted and inducted, as well as sufficiently endowed, and thus our vicarages, in their present form, came into existence². Of course, the natural effect in very many parishes of having a vicar in addition to the rector, was that the rector by the

¹ *Calend. Inquisit. Post Mortem*, Vol. III. p. 50; White Kennet's *Parochial Antiquities*, Vol. II. p. 165; Baker, *MSS.* Vol. XXVIII. pp. 213, 214.

² Stephens' *Laws relating to the Clergy*, Vol. II. p. 1371; Hook's *Church Dictionary*.

mere force of custom at length considered himself entirely relieved from residence and from all spiritual charge. In fact, a mere sinecure, as regarded him, began to be created, an abuse which does not seem to have been originally contemplated. But such was not for a very long time the case at Milton. The rector and the vicar both lived here at the same time, and each in his own peculiar dwelling, whence it was in reality benefited, so long as such a laudable practice was continued, by having two supervisors instead of one. Moreover, it was not an unusual circumstance for the rector to omit to appoint a vicar, and to take upon himself the oversight of his flock in a double capacity, working the parish like other beneficed clergymen, and only calling in the assistance of a curate, when from ill health, or any similarly allowable cause, the presence of a fellow-labourer was rendered indispensable. The actual sinecure, therefore, as manifested by an endowed rector deeming himself free, notwithstanding his institution, from residence as well as duty, did not exist at Milton except in comparatively modern times, nor even then uninterruptedly, and in so small a parish could do little harm: the positive and unmitigated evil came when the vicar, also, as eventually happened, followed the example of the rector, and became himself equally non-resident, serving his cure from Cambridge. During more than five centuries the parish had thus two sets of clergymen officially connected more or less with it; in 1846, however, the rectory and the vicarage were consolidated¹ in obedience to a recent act of Parliament, and can never again be held by separate individuals.

‘Ecclesia de Middleton non appropriata : est ibi rector et vicarius², et taxatur ad xv marcas : solvit pro synodalibus ij^s

¹ At visitations the rector is required to pay also the ancient fees which were wont to be demanded of the vicar.

² The archdeacon's book mentions a few other parishes, which had both a rector and vicar : (Dry) Drayton, Barton, Orwell, Elm, Caxton, (Long) Stow, and Bukele (Brinckley?). Of (Cherry) Hinton it is said—

iiij^d: procuracionibus xviiij^d: denariis sancti Petri ij^s: ornamenta sunt hæc: duo missalia¹ sufficientia: iiij gradalia: (unum menubrum² cristallinum:) duo troperia: j antiphonarium: ij legende, quarum j bona et alia in duobus voluminibus: j manuale: turribulum bonum: tria paria vestimentorum cum pertinentiis³: j calix bonus et alius debilis: ij rochete: vij superpellicia: crismatorium bonum: (ij candelabra?): ij phiole: pixis eburnea⁴: ij cruces: cappa chori: ij frontalia: ij turribula: lanterna: j vexillum: velum templi⁵: item unum vestimentum cum casula alba: stola: crux argentea: manipulum⁶ cum optimis paruris: tunica dalmatica et capa chori: et unus pannus de baldekyno⁷ de dono domini Radulphi rectoris.'

The manuscript, from which the foregoing account has been extracted, and which still exists in the library of Caius College, is of great value in relation to everything, that can come within the designation of ancient church furniture, and even as to some other parochial matters. It is unques-

non appropriata, *quare* est ibi vicarius et rector; and certain larger payments than they otherwise would have been, are ascribed to Whittlesford (and Rampton) quia solebat habere vicarium, as well as a rector.

¹ For an account of these service-books recourse must be had to Maskell's *Mon. Rit. Eccles. Angl.* Vol. I. or some similar work.

² The menubrum, a word which only occurs this once in the arch-deacon's book, must be the manubrius of Du Cange, and, therefore, a thuribulum or vas in quo thus reponitur. The writers of that book, clerks though they may have been, were by no means particular as to the gender, declension, or spelling, of their Latin words.

³ Videlicet, cum tunica, dalmatica, et capa chori.

⁴ The pyx was of every kind of material,—even of silk.

⁵ Occasionally it is styled velum quadragesimale, or simply velum. Every church must have had one. *Hist. of Waterbeach*, p. 41, n.

⁶ Its other name was sudarium.

⁷ Bawdkyn or cloth of Bawdkyn was one of the richest and most precious species of stuffs, being composed of silk interwoven with threads of gold in a most sumptuous manner. The name came from the Persian city Baldac, or Babylon, whence it is reported to have been introduced into these western regions.

tionably connected, as regards the writing, only with the fourteenth century, and would seem to have been at first designed to record the results of some visitations of Ralph de Fotheringay, Archdeacon of Ely from 1292 to his death in 1316. Three of his visitations are distinctly referred to, viz. in 1305, 1309, and 1311. The earliest date mentioned in the course of the numerous entries is 1304; the latest 1386. The year 1278 does indeed occur in the case of Wilburton, a parish of which the archdeacon had the great tithes, but the account of the furniture belonging to that parish was evidently inserted, as we may judge from the mere wording, in order to supply an omission—‘*Ornamenta inventa in eadem (ecclesia) in festo sancti Michaelis anno domini m.cc.lxxviii sunt hec.*’ Moreover, Ralph de Walpole, who became bishop of Norwich in 1288, is described as lately archdeacon.

The writing is of several different periods, which are easily distinguishable from one another; but the least ancient, for a reason just given, is unable to be pronounced not to be ‘later than 1349.’ The year to be assigned as the commencement of the manuscript must be quite at the beginning of the fourteenth century. For under Wisbech we find two entries, of which the second and later one begins thus: ‘*Item, in visitatione Magistri R. de ffodr. Archidiaconi Elyensis anno domini m.ccc°.xj.*’ Probably we have in the earliest portions of the manuscript certain notices of church furniture, &c. which were the result of his visitation in 1309. This was not; as we know, actually his first visitation, but it may have been the first whose results were carefully and diligently recorded.

The suppression of altars throughout the diocese of Ely took place 7th December, 1550, toward the end of the episcopate of Bishop Goodrich. On that day a general assembly of the rectors, vicars, curates, and churchwardens was held in the church belonging to the parish of the Holy Trinity, Cam-

bridge, when a sermon was preached by Matthew Parker, at that time rector of Landbeach, and the holy scripture expounded in English. Afterwards Edward Leedys, Bishop Goodrich's commissary, and Vicar General¹, commanded that all altars existing in the various churches and chapels of the several deaneries within the diocese of Ely should be destroyed and thrown down by the approaching festival of Christmas.

Copy of a Record in the Public Record Office, entitled 'Church Goods, Cambridge, tempore Edw. VI. Exchequer, Court of Augmentations.' Miscellaneous Books, Vol. 495.

Mylton. This is a trewe and perfect Inventorie indented made and taken the iiijth day of August Anno Regni Regis E. vj. sexto [1552] by us Richarde Wylkes Clerke Henry Gooderyche and Thomas Rudston Esquyres² commyssioners emongest others assigned for the surveye and vieu of all manner of goodes, plate, jewelles, belles, and orniamentes as yet be remayninge forthe comynge and belonging to y^e parochie Church there, as hereafter foloweth.

Plate. Fyrst there is one Chalyce of Sylver poids xx^{ti} ounces.

Ornam^{ts}. Item, one vestem^t deacon and subdeacon of blewe sylke, one olde Cope of redde sylke wth y^e deacon and subdeacon of y^e same sylke, one vestem^t of blacke saye, one other vestem^t of whight chamlett.

Belles. Item, in y^e steple there iij Belles, one sanctus bell³.

¹ Cooper's *Athenæ Cantab.*

² *History of Waterbeach*, pp. 42, 43, notes.

³ This seems to have been the usual number of bells. Waterbeach, Landbeach, and Horningsey, had the same. For sanctus bell see *Hist. of Landbeach*, p. 76, n.

All which parcelles above wrytton be delyvered and comytted by us the saide Commyssioners unto y^e salve kepyng of Henry Harte Richarde Foote and John Lawrence parisheoners there, to be att all tymes forthcomynge to be answered: Except and reserved and the saide chalyce, and the saide cope of redde sylke wth y^e vestem^t of blewe sylke, delyvered to John Fytzsone (Fyson?) and Richarde Barker Churchwardens there for thonlie mayntenaunce of dyvyne servyce in y^e saide paroch church.

HENRY GODERICK. RIC. WILKES. THOMAS RUDSTONE.
THOMAS HYSSAM Vicar.

RICHARD BARKER.

JOHN FYTZSONE × his mark.

The wills made early in the sixteenth century by inhabitants of Milton are extremely useful in affording us glimpses of the state of the church, and church matters, at that period. Ten of them will be given hereafter.

Two gilds were held in the church, the gild of All Hal- lows or All Saints, and the gild of S. Katerine¹. The high altar is mentioned, and the rood loft: bequests are likewise left to the Sepulchre light², and to the torches required for processions. The church was then thatched with reeds, as, most probably, were the great majority of country churches, and other large buildings, and as indeed some still are. The use of tiles was clearly uncommon, from the circumstance of a tenement given by Rose Cokk to her husband being called for

¹ *Hist. of Waterbeach*, p. 40.

² *Ibid.* pp. 60, 61. Wardens of the Sepulchre light, and indeed of every light appropriated to a special purpose, were wont at one time at least to be annually elected, as well as wardens of the church. Cooper's *Memorials of Cambridge*, Vol. III. p. 370, n. In the *East Anglian*, Vol. III. p. 79, mention is made, under the date 1537, of the election of an Alderwoman, and Warden of the Lady's light.

distinction's sake the tiled house. 'Our lady's chapel' occurs in John Nicholson's will, who desires his executors to glaze one window therein. Was the manor chapel intended? That belonged of right to a particular family, and we might suppose that no one, except the lord would take upon himself to offer, or would be allowed, to do any thing to it either by way of reparation or improvement. But on the other hand in 1685 the lord's tenants were ordered by ecclesiastical authority to repair that chapel, and consequently John Nicholson's will may well be considered to refer to it, though surely his direction could not be carried out unless with the lord's sanction.

The right of presenting to the rectory of Milton had always been hitherto in the lord of the manor; at length, some time during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and, possibly, towards the very end of it, this right got separated from the manor, though under what circumstances does not appear¹. It became vested in the Reverend Dr Goade, provost of King's College, who may have presented himself somewhere about the year 1600. Dr Goade died in 1610, and left the advowson first to the members of his family in succession, and then to his college. The following extract from his will, dated 9 January 1608-9, is printed on the authority of Baker:—

'I appoint my second son Thomas y^e rectory of Milton, he to be thereunto presented by my eldest son Matthew in whom the interest of the parsonage is of trust. And upon vacation of the same rectory by death or otherwise from time to time, I will that y^e said presentation shall be to such other of my sons successively as shall be capable thereof. And upon default of any such my sons, then my son Matthew, his heirs or executors, shall present such capable person to the said rectory, being provost, or then fellow, of the said King's College,

¹ There may exist documents in the treasury of King's College, which can explain it.

and a minister, as he or they shall best like of pro una vice tantum. And afterwards I give the said patronage to the said King's College perpetuis futuris temporibus to be conveyed by good assurance in Lawe to the provost and schollars and their successors from my said son Matthew, his heirs or executors.'

On the restoration of Charles II. the rectory was for that turn in the patronage of the crown, wherefore Dr Whichcote, as will be mentioned more particularly hereafter, was then obliged to vacate the preferment, which he had already held for about nine years in order that the crown might exercise the privilege given to it by law. 'For the king has not only the right of presenting to churches as supreme patron, which lapse to him during his own reign, but also such as may have lapsed to any of his predecessors, who have taken no advantage therefrom. When lapse incurs to the king, it cannot be taken away by the patron or the ordinary¹.'

The vicar in later times went occasionally by the name of sequestrator, as indeed he actually was, and for a reason which admits of an easy explanation. 'Sometimes a benefice is kept under sequestration for many years together, or wholly; namely, when it is of so small value, that no clergyman fit to serve the cure will be at the charge of taking it by institution².'

Something must now be said respecting the annual value of the rectory and vicarage. And first of the rectory. The *Rotuli Hundredorum* is the earliest document to which any reference is possible, but they do not state anything definite as to the income of the rector: they merely record the fact that an endowment of land had been made to him by the founders of the church, whoever are meant by the expression. These thirty acres, with apparently a house for the tenant were at that time in the hands of a man named Alan Textor,

¹ Stephens' *Laws relating to the Clergy*, Vol. i. p. 593.

² Ibid. Vol. II. p. 1246; *Memorials of Cambridge*, Vol. III. p. 372, n.

or Alan the weaver. If, however, we go to the *Taxatio Ecclesiastica*, which was drawn up in 1291, twelve years later, we find the following passage :

	£.	s.	d.
Ecclesia de Middelton	15	6	8
Porcio Prioris de Bernewell in eadem	3	6	8 ¹

The sum last named would seem to represent the worth of the tithes arising from his demesne land at Milton, which we have seen Pigot, who founded the abbey subsequently transferred from Cambridge to Barnwell, assigned to the head of his religious establishment there towards its support. We may now come to the King's Book, from which we learn that in 1535 the rectory was set at £4. 6s. 11d. Baker tells us that its annual value was £100, and in Adam Elliott's days it was returned at £120. Whichcote in 1656 recorded that neither the rector nor the vicar paid firstfruits, but that they both paid tenths.

The vicar is not mentioned even in the later of the two documents belonging to the thirteenth century quoted above. We first read about him in relation to temporal affairs in the book containing the transactions of the manor of Waterbeach cum Denney. There the vicar of Milton is recorded to have been presented and fined no less than five times between 2 and 19 Edw. IV. [1462-1479] for a variety of offences—for putting his cattle in the common of the manor, where he hath no common—for trespassing with his beasts in fladis domine et tenentium—for not mending and defending the hallowe from water—for digginge xvj^m turffes in the marshes beyonde his common contrary to the by lawe, and a precept to seize them to the ladies² use as forfeited—for having frequently transgressed within the demesne.

The same priest did not hold the vicarage during the whole of these eighteen years, consequently we learn from this detail of offences something respecting their being

¹ *Taxatio Ecclesiastica* (ed. 1802), p. 266.

² The abbess of Denney.

constant residents in the parish, and something too, as to the mode of improving their income, which they were obliged to adopt. The King's Book sets the vicarage at £4. 16s. 0½*d.* When Edward Johnson was vicar, the value of his living was considered by the officials of the earl of Manchester to be £18 per annum. Baker placed it at £25, whilst in Elliott's time it was thought to be worth only £15. It is singular that in 1535 the vicarage should have been valued at a higher sum than the rectory. There had been from 1699 (the first year of its existence) a land-tax of £4 on the vicarage. This was taken off, from and after 29th of September 1819, by duly appointed commissioners under the provisions of an Act of Parliament 57 Geo. III. cap. 100. About 1776, the sum of £400 was granted to the vicar by the governors of Queen Anne's bounty: when Mr Chapman became rector, he declined the receipt of the dividends accruing therefrom, and caused the grant to be cancelled.

Milton is in the deanery of Chesterton, and Archdeaconry of Ely. The church of Milton, like that of the contiguous parishes of Landbeach, Cottenham, and Rampton, is dedicated to All Saints. As regards the majority of the churches of Cambridgeshire and the Isle of Ely, the remark seems worth making, that 42 are dedicated to S. Mary, 24 to All Saints, 20 to S. Andrew¹, 16 to S. Peter, and 8 to the Holy Trinity.

Milton church has a nave, a chancel, and a south porch, covered with tiles: a west tower, and a north and south aisle covered with lead; and a vestry covered with slates. At the beginning of the sixteenth century it was all thatched with reeds. There is a pen-and-ink view of the south side of the church in Cole, to which is attached the date 24th July, 1744. He speaks of the church generally as 'an awkward kind of church, small lowe something dark and not very neate.'

¹ S. Andrew was especially honoured in and around Cambridge, one third of the churches within a range of five miles being dedicated to him.

moreover, it must, from his reference which is given below, have been uncomfortably damp¹.

The tower is Later Decorated, and wanting in height. It has a buttress of two stages at its south-west and north-west corners, and also, two other buttresses at its north and south sides, which are the latest as well as the highest, and of three stages each. On the south face is a human head carved in stone: it is out of its proper position, having been probably the termination to a hood-mould, and possibly, that over the East window. It does not now quite fulfil the object of him who put it where it is, which must have been ornamentation rather than preservation, from its being uncomfortably and unnecessarily elevated. The upper part of the tower, or the steeple, with its plain battlemented parapet, has been super-added at two different times. The steeple was, and still continues to be, regularly fitted up internally as a pigeon-house by means of square holes cut in the four walls for the pigeons to build in. Such a beneficial appropriation of it, however, must be modern, and solely connected with the time, happily now passed by, and never again to recur, when the rectory had become in name and reality a sinecure. The tower has a clock on its west face, put up in 1848 at an expense of £53. Immediately beneath it is what seems to be a portion of a gargoyle. The money for the clock came chiefly from the directors of the Great Eastern Railway, as compensation for parish-land required by them for their works. A century and a half before a clock had existed on the tower. In the steeple are three bells. The inscriptions on the bells, beginning with the treble, are as follows: 1. Miles Graye made me 1665: 2. Thomas Newman² made me 1717:

¹ Nash's *History of Worcestershire*, Vol. i. p. 4.

² Thomas Newman was a Norwich bell-founder. The inscription on the tenor bell at Kersey, near Hadleigh, in Suffolk, tells us where the foundry of the Grayes was, about which some doubt existed:—

Samuel Sampson, churchwarden, I say,

Caused me to be made by *Colchester Graye*. 1638.

3. Non clamor sed amor cantat in aure Dei, 1621. This last bell, though bearing no maker's name, has been pronounced by competent authority to be the work of Tobie Norris of Stamford. The tower-arch, which until lately was blocked up with the usual singing gallery, is now entirely open, except that a small barrel-organ, standing on the floor, occupies some of the lower portion of it. Over the arch towards the nave are the words 'Praise the Lord.'

The nave is Early Decorated, and, like the naves at Hockington and Horningsey, has no clear-story windows, small churches in old times rarely possessing any. Two windows indeed of three lights each are above the south arcade; these could not however have formed part of the first plan, and must have been inserted long afterwards, perhaps late in the sixteenth century, or even subsequently, to remedy in some measure the too great darkness of that part of the church. Cole's sketch has them.

The font, 'a rude block,' and old, is large and octagonal, with a carved wooden cover¹ of the Jacobean period. Similar covers are very common, and afford, it is said, striking proofs of 'the temporary revival of church principles during that era.' The font may be coeval with the nave: it stood in 1744 against the second pillar of the north aisle, but is now placed in the centre of the church, nearly opposite the entrance door. Fonts, since the introduction of the pointed style of architecture, are commonly found in England, as at Milton, of an octagonal shape, because the number eight was considered to symbolize regeneration. This notion is very ancient. The words even of an early Christian poet are: 'octagonus fons est;' the reason assigned for it being, that as the old creation was completed in seven days, so eight, the next

¹ The font used to be kept locked, as ordered in 1236 by Edmund, Archbishop of Canterbury. 'This was done for fear of sorcery, though the manner of committing the offence does not appear.' Hook's *Archbishops of Canterbury*, Vol. III. p. 182; *Hist. of Landbeach*, p. 75, n.

number in the series, rightly stands for our new creation in Christ Jesus :

‘Hoc numero decuit sacri Baptismatis aulam
Surgere.’

The pillars, capitals and arches of both arcades are good, but they extend only two thirds of the way down the nave from the east. On the south of the chancel arch is what must have been a squint, or hagioscope, and designed for the benefit of those, who worshipped in the manor chapel. The nave, on the outside, retains its original pitch, and has at the east a portion probably of the stump of a stone cross: it was cieled, on account of the coldness of the church, by Mr Knight when rector. The woodwork of the roof belongs, like the cover of the font, to the early part of seventeenth century. The windows towards the west end of the nave are of four lights, and, being exactly similar to them, may have been put in at the same time with those above the arcade on the south¹. The pulpit and reading-desk were introduced at the expense of the present rector: the lectern was an Easter offering made in 1865 by the Reverend Dr Giles, the present owner and occupant of the manor house with its grounds. Over the north arcade has been painted ‘God is a Spirit, and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth:’ over the south arcade ‘The Lord is in His holy temple, let all the earth keep silence before Him.’

The north aisle, containing only three bays, the third or westernmost being half the width of the two others, was rebuilt in 1864 through the exertions of the Rev. John Chapman. The whole interior of the church was resealed and rearranged at the same time, a sum of £530 having been raised for all the above purposes by means of the contributions of himself and his friends. This aisle had been taken

¹ Thomas Campion by his will dated in 1516 gives a legacy of xx^s. to the making of a window on the south side of the church; whilst John Nicholson in 1521 desires two windows to be glazed after the proportion of the new window. See their wills.

down by faculty nearly a century ago, in consequence of its very dilapidated condition, the space between the pillars blocked up, and two windows inserted, which by no pretence could be called ornamental. Cole records that he glazed these new windows, and put in a great deal of painted glass, viz. a crucifix: S. Paul with Ananias and Sapphira; and the arms of some lords of the manor.

'Thursday, Sep. 2, 1779. The north aisle being in danger of falling, at the east end of which is my pew [it took up all the east end], the parish consented to pull it down: Mr Masters, rector of Landbeach [and also vicar of Waterbeach] Deputy Chancellor, having got leave of the bishop, they began to pull it down.' The faculty cost £8. 0s. 3d. Cole has some lengthy remarks about the disposition and conduct of the rector, Mr Knight, on this occasion¹, whom among other epithets he calls a 'furious madman.' They were not worth making even if true, but the antiquary was far from being a person on whom we can depend in his estimate of others with unhesitating confidence. It would have been well for him had he, whilst writing designedly for the instruction of posterity, called to mind that posthumous slander tells much more to the detriment of him who thus perpetuates, if he does not invent it, than of him who is sought to be injured thereby.

The north aisle is now rebuilt so as in plan and size to resemble the south aisle, which, we may feel sure, it did accurately resemble from the first. Its extent is small, still it must rather be considered an aisle than a chapel, and it was always so styled: a chantry it could not have been. A side chapel occupied the east end according to the usual custom in parish churches, and as we know to have been the case in the south aisle. Just below the tracery of its east window are two coats of arms, both of Queen Eliza-

¹ Vol. vi. pp. viii. and xviii. fol. 242.

beth : they came from one of the side chapels in the chapel of King's College. A third piece of painted glass, much more modern and due, as Cole tells us, to himself, represents the death of Ananias and Sapphira. There are besides two round pieces of glass 9 in. in diameter, bearing figures of St Margaret and St Catharine, also a quarry like the one engraved in Franks' Quarries, pl. 35. On the north wall is a tablet 'In memory of Isaac Marsh, who died the 5th of March 1837, aged 65 years.'

The south aisle, like the nave, is Early Decorated work. Of the windows, which as well as the roof were repaired in 1855 at the expense of John Percy Baumgartner, Esq., the owner of the Manor, that to the east is, as usual, the finest, from having had an altar beneath it. The manor chapel, a portion of a more ancient church, with its chaplain, are mentioned so early as 1279, and must then have been in existence for some time, whether we apply the words on p. 18 'whereof there is no memory' to the bestowing of the gift there mentioned, or to the foundation itself of the building¹. That chapel, however, as at present existing, and called until very recent times L'Estrange's chapel, did not include the whole of what is now thought to belong to the lord of the manor, namely, two out of the three bays of the aisle. Cole says of it in 1744: 'Above half of the south aisle is divided from the rest by a screen, which is stalled round for a private chapel or oratory. On the north side, near the old altar, stands a very old altar tomb of [Purbeck] marble with nothing on it, as does another on the opposite side against the south wall: a little above the piscina is an awkward kind of mural monument of stone, and in it a brass plate.' This was the memorial of the Harris family. Blomefield mentions 'a very ancient altar tomb' in the south

¹ We cannot tell whether by founder is meant he who originally built the church in Norman times, or he who substantially restored, if he did not actually rebuild, it in the thirteenth century.

aisle, 'with the circumscription lost,' and says 'by the arms of Le Strange in the east window, and its being called Strange's chapel, I make no doubt but that one of that ancient family is interred beneath it.' The flooring of the whole chapel, according to the present notion of its extent, has been designedly raised about seven inches. It may have been done by Mr Knight, and like the second raising under part of the seats in order to give greater height to the vault beneath.

At the east end of this aisle is an aumbry without its door; a bracket, which must have served to support some figure; a niche, coloured green on the inside, which once had a statue² within it: also, a piscina with its shelf, and one plain water-drain. The niche, having been plastered over, long continued in that state undisturbed. At length it was opened by the vicar, Mr Champneys, and found to contain certain small images. These had doubtless formed groups of figures, relics of the Roman Catholic mode of worship, and had been concealed there clearly in the sixteenth century by the pious care of some one, who did not wish them, according to his notions, to be desecrated, and who, therefore, provided for them, as he hoped (nor was he wholly disappointed), a sure hiding place. The concealment may, however, have had a different object. A report respecting the state of the diocese of Chichester, dated December, 1569³, says,—'They have yet in the diocese in many places thereof images hidden and other Popish ornaments ready to set up the mass again within 24 hours warning.' It is much to be regretted, that no care was taken, on their discovery, to keep together those images, and so to preserve them, as to render them, if not, honoured, at least an interesting memorial of former religious notions and

¹ *Collectanea*, p. 175.

² Of the Virgin Mary?

³ Froude's *Hist. of England*, Vol. ix. p. 506.

customs, particularly, since they were declared to be valuable not only for their antiquity, but for their workmanship. They are now completely dispersed, and, possibly, to a great extent destroyed¹.

The windows of this aisle contain a small portion of painted glass, of which some is old. The ornamental glazing quarries, though late, form the most interesting part of it. There are two quarries of a very large size, and six of the ordinary size; the two large ones, bearing a honeysuckle and a rose, have been engraved². Of the other six, four have a large rose on each, the remaining two a stag. In the tracery of the east window are also three coats of arms, one with twenty-two quarterings, the first being that borne anciently by Baron Maltravers, a second with six quarterings, the arms of queen Margaret of Anjou, the foundress of Queens' College, and a third, argent, three lioncels rampant, regardant, gules, with a bordure gobonated. Cole does not mention these arms, nor are they claimed in any way by the present owner of the manor. They would seem therefore to have been put in, and probably by his ancestor Mr Knight, simply as ornaments. On the other hand Cole does say 'On the east window are—gules, two lions passant, argent, for Le Strange³. Or, a cross, gules. Gules, a chevron between three lioncels rampant, argent, paled with, gules, a chevron, ermine, between three garbes, argent, for Goade. Also, party per pale three tygers' heads erased counterchanged.'

¹ At Blunham, in Bedfordshire, (of which parish the writer was once curate,) something similar occurred in 1849. In a cavity just below the east window of the church on the outside a collection of small figures, partially mutilated, was accidentally found. These have been rearranged in their proper groups, and are exposed to view in a glass case at the rectory.

² Franks' *Ornamental Glazing Quarries*, p. 14, and Plates 68, 74.

³ For some remarks concerning the arms borne by several members of this family see Dugdale's *Ancient Use of Bearing Arms*, p. 53.

On a brass tablet now in the east wall we have the following inscription : ' Here lieth the body of John Harris Gent. sonne of William Harris Esquier borne the 25 of June 1609 interred the 18 of October 1659. And allso the bodies of William, James, George, Michale, Briget, Anne, and Briget the younger, sonnes and daughters of the said John Harris and Martha his wife, daughter of Thomas Tempest of Whaddon Esquier, she had living then, when she erected this, 3 sonnes and 7 daughters. A°.D°. 1660.' At the top of the tablet are the father with his three sons, and the mother with her two daughters. The arms are, sable, 3 crescents 2, 1, argent, impaling Tempest, argent, a bend engrailed between six martlets, sable.

In the pavement is a stone slab, on which we read, ' Here lieth the body of William Kettle, who dyed the 30th day of June 1700 in the 69 year of his age. Catherine his wife died 20 August 1727 aged 86 years.'

At the north corner of the south aisle is a monument with this inscription :

' Sacred to the memory of George Nichols Esq. of Conington House Cambridgeshire. ob. April 15. 1812. Æt. 67. Also, of Philippa, his widow, ob. October 9. 1837. Æt. 86. And of Philippa, their beloved and only child, ob. June 21. 1795. Æt. 15. Also, of two sisters of Mrs Nichols, Jane, widow of the Rev^d. Rich^d. Fayerman, Rector of Oby, Norfolk, ob. October 16, 1821, Æt. 72. And Anne Spelman, June 30, 1835, Æt. 78. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. 1 *Cor.* 15. 26.'

In the south aisle are four mural monuments. The first bears the following inscription :

In a vault beneath are deposited
In stedfast hope of a joyful resurrection
The Remains of the Reverend Samuel Knight, M.A.
Only son of the Reverend Samuel Knight, D.D. formerly Prebendary of Ely.

He departed this life on the vith day of January MDCCXC.
 In the LXXI^d year of his age.
 His only son erects this in memory of the best of Fathers.
 Here also rest the Remains of Sarah Spelman
 Eldest sister of Elizabeth wife of Samuel Knight Esq^{re}.
 Who departed this life on the vith day of September MDCCCVI.
 In the LXIst year of her age.
 She died in a moment, in a moment she thought not of
 yet not unprepared.
 Reader be thou likewise ready.

He was fellow of Trinity College, and B.A. 1738-9,
 M.A. 1742.

The second monument consists of a bas-relief by Flaxman,
 beneath which is the following inscription :

Sacred to the memory of
 Elizabeth
 Wife of Samuel Knight Esq. of this place
 Who after a few hours' illness only
 Exchanged this life for a better on the 17th of June 1800
 In the 39th year of her age.
 Of women O thou loveliest and thou best !
 Enter, Eliza, on thy promised rest,
 (Mysterious proof of heaven's transcendant love)
 All but translated to the realms above !
 Thy husband pardon for his grief implores,
 He weeps in frailty, but in faith adores.
 The christian feels thy gain, but must bemoan
 As man his children's loss ;—yet more his own,
 Bright excellence ! With every virtue fraught !
 Such may we be ! By thy example taught ;
 Pure in the eye of heaven, like thee appear
 Should we this hour Death's awful summons hear ;
 Like thee all other confidence disown,
 And looking to the cross of Christ alone,
 In meekness tread the path thy steps have trod,
 And find, with thee, acceptance from our God !

At the head of the monument above the figures :

Then
 Shall the good be received
 into life everlasting.

The bas-relief is described and criticised in the following extract from G. F. Teniswood, *Memorials of Flaxman* (*Art Journal*, 1868, p. 3):

‘Prominent among the list of works exhibiting the devotional feeling and spirituality of form exemplifying the genius of Flaxman, is that erected to Mrs Knight, in Milton Church, near Cambridge. Here...the spirit of the deceased, invested with the form of humanity, is rising from the tomb, and conducted heavenward by an angelic visitant. The conception is one he has frequently adopted, as embodying the highest aspirations of Christian belief. For the purpose of such memorials it would be difficult to select an idea more in general keeping with the feeling prompting them, or better calculated to assist the teachings they enunciate in the mute, yet speaking, marble. The figure here seen as rising from the tomb is rather the embodiment of spirit than the representation of substance, and whether viewed as a whole or in parts, presents the most ideal refinement. Though with the foot yet touching the earth, the action of rising to soar away is beautifully suggested, to which effect the lines of the drapery, by exhibiting rather than concealing the forms beneath, largely contribute. In the church at Croydon, lamentably destroyed by fire some months past, was a replica of this monument, though differing in one respect. To the upper figure Flaxman had given wings, which, while marking its character and intention in the group, distinguished it from the individuality suggested by the lower form. Such a modification of the work was probably suggested to him, as many friends of the deceased lady whose monument is at Milton felt the expression of the conception would have been more vividly apparent had the upper figure been so treated. Such a supposition is favoured by the relative date of the two works, that at Milton having been erected about 1802, the group at Croydon not being placed till about 1810.’

The third monument in the south aisle bears the following inscription :

Samuel Knight

Born July XIth MDCCCLIV

Died June VIIth MDCCCXXXV

My children, friends, and thou beloved wife,
 Dear pious partner of my closing life !
 Watching (as duty prompts) my parting breath—
 Mourn not as void of hope a Christian's death—
 Control the mournful—the embittered sigh :
 On Christ, my God and Saviour I rely ;
 Christ still the same (what though I've lived to see
 Tow'rds Rome's fell power a sad apostacy)
 Vile as I am, wash'd in his blood, I know ;
 My scarlet sins are made as white as snow—
 "Increase my faith, I prayed ; repentance give.
 "And in thy rest, O Lord, my soul shall live :
 "Celestial gift ! thy Holy Spirit send
 "To lead each thought to good, from ill defend ;
 "Till I, blest inmate of thy pure abode,
 "Through all eternity behold my God."

Frances Knight, widow of the above

Died Dec. 10 A.D. 1844.

God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son
 that whosoever believeth in him should not perish
 But have everlasting life.

St John iii. 16.

He was of Trinity College, B.A. 1776 and M.A. 1779.

The foregoing monuments are on the south wall, the fourth is at the west end of the aisle. It is by Chantrey, and bears the following inscription :

Sacred to the memory of

Samuel Knight, Jun^r.

Only son of Samuel Knight, Esq., of Milton

Who peacefully departed this life

On the 2nd day of June, 1829 in the 39th year of his age

Trusting in the tender mercies of his God,

Through the mediation of his Redeemer—

How dearly loved, how deeply mourned,

By her who consecrates this stone can be known only to Him

Unto whom all hearts are open.

In that part of the south aisle, which extends the width

of the third arch, and which until of late years had been for some time separated from the rest, on the north and east sides, by a lath and plaster partition, in order to serve for a porch, a raised crossed slab now lies : it was found in 1864 in the nave, and is in beautiful preservation. Like the slabs, which may be seen in the churches of Hockington, Horningsey, and Landbeach, it has near the middle of the shaft of the cross that most puzzling ornament, about which so many unsatisfactory conjectures have been offered. All these slabs are referred to the thirteenth century¹. The small west window of the aisle is original, and is now filled with painted glass by W. H. Constable representing Jacob's dream, with the passage from Scripture, 'This is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of Heaven.' Over the entrance door hang the royal arms. These originally belonged to Landbeach Church, but in 1826 were transferred to Milton, as not being any longer required there².

The chancel, contrary to the usual custom, is on the same level as the nave : with the exception of the south wall it was entirely rebuilt in 1847 at the expense of the rector. The part he pulled down may have been, and most probably was, chiefly Early English work ; an Early English chancel having replaced the Norman apse, which was the case in so many other churches. A few of the old stones must have been used again in the rebuilding of the east end, and especially the bottom stone of the coping of the gable on both sides, which is apparently of the Early English style of architecture, and may thus once more occupy its proper place³. At the termination of the chancel on the outside is a modern ornamental stone cross.

¹ Cutts' *Sepulchral Slabs and Crosses*, p. 44.

² *History of Landbeach*, p. 63.

³ Similar stones were once at the east end of Waterbeach church, but these were not restored on the rebuilding of the chancel. *Glossary of Architecture*, Vol. I. p. 440, edit. 1850.

The chancel arch is Norman with plain capitals, being the only portion still remaining of the church, to which it at first belonged. Over it towards the nave is: 'I will wash my hands in innocency, O Lord, and so will I go to Thine altar.' The king's arms and the ten commandments were there in 1744. The modern east window of four lights is Decorated; it was the gift of the patrons of the advowson, and has its tracery filled with painted glass at the expense of Mr Chapman. The previous window was, of course, in its earliest state, that inserted by an ancient rector, John Scot, who had been presented to the living in 1349. A brass underneath it in the pavement once recorded the fact. We may suppose that it was then said of the Early English chancel, as, forty years before, it had been said of the same style of chancel with its narrow windows at Horningsey: '*nec est ibi lumen competens,*' and that this led to the substitution. The window on the north, as well as that on the south, side of the chancel is Late Perpendicular: the painted glass of the latter was put in a few years ago, and represents under three aspects, each with a distinct reference to the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, the marriage supper at Cana of Galilee. The new open roof is a copy from the roof of the Roman Catholic chapel at Cambridge, which was made after a design by the late Mr Pugin.

On the south side of the chancel is an aumbry. The piscina¹, of which each compartment has a water-drain, is partially a restoration, though, of course, in all respects an accurate resemblance of what previously existed. This piscina, therefore, bears another testimony to an Early English chancel; subsequent to the thirteenth century indeed it could not well be from the occurrence even of its double

¹ When the church at Horningsey was restored in 1865 two piscinas were discovered, one which belonged to the roodloft, and another almost immediately beneath it, the former square and about the year 1400, the latter trefoiled and a century perhaps, earlier.

water-drain, which can hardly be found after that period, from being thenceforward no longer necessary. The beautiful cinque-foiled sedilia are Late Perpendicular, which is shown by the presence of the peculiar ornamental cusping called double feathering, whose introduction is to be referred to the reign of Hen. VII. Over them are the words: 'Whoso eateth My flesh and drinketh My blood, hath eternal life.' Along the west side of the chancel, and somewhat blocking up the entrance to it, are four oaken stalls, old and good, having, it is said, below the misereres the arms of the see of Ely; as they are evidently not in their first position, they may be the stalls to which Cole alluded, and which he says were arranged to the north and south of the chancel. There is likewise some carved work in oak of later date, as well as some uncarved oak, all of which came from the hall of the previous rectory house. The Communion Table has above it the sentence, 'Do this in remembrance of Me.' In 1744 the Table was on one step only, (now it is on two), and not¹ railed in. The rails had been taken away about a century before by order of the House of Commons. The present rails belonged at first to King's College Chapel. Though far from modern, they yet are not at all after the pattern enjoined by Archbishop Laud, whose Injunctions required them to be 'neere one yarde in height, and so thicke with pillars, that dogges might not get in².' Cole says about them: 'In 1774 I spoke to the Provost, and told him, that he could not dispose of part of the old altar piece at King's College, which was lately taken down for a new one, [better] than to give it to this dirty church of their patronage, and where his namesake, William Cooke, was interred. He went into the church, and said it was so squalid, that unless the parish would do

¹ This we may imagine was the usual state of the tables throughout the kingdom in the eighteenth century; for the *Spectator* in 1711 says of Sir Roger de Coverley—'he has railed in the Communion Table at his own expense.' No. 112.

² *History of Landbeach*, p. 93, n. *The East Anglian*, p. 192, n.

somewhat, the altar part would make it look worse. However, part of the old rails were sent, and are now [1779] put up.'

To the north of the space set apart for the Communion Table is a good late brass, at present in the pavement, but which used to form the top of a high or altar tomb, of which Cole has a drawing. This brass comprises the effigies of the judge and his wife with scrolls above their heads, two groups of children, (two sons beneath the father, three daughters beneath the mother), a large plate with arms, helmet, and crest and mantling, and an inverted inscription below the two groups of children; the whole being surrounded by a border-legend with evangelistic emblems at the corners. The judge wears his robes over his ordinary civic attire; the lady the loose dress with puffed and slashed sleeves of the time of Queen Mary. The arms are: Per pale, argent and sable, 3 wolves' heads erased, counterchanged: crest, a wolf's head erased, per pale, argent and sable. The marginal inscription is as follows: 'Orate pro anima Gulielmi Coke, armigeri, unius Justiciariorum Domini Regis de Communi Banco, qui obiit vicesimo quinto die Augusti, Anno Domini Millesimo quingentesimo tercio, et pro bono statu Alicie Uxor is ejus, que monumentum fieri fecit.' Over the judge is: 'Plebs sine lege ruit;' over his wife: 'Mulier casta, dos pulcherrima.' The Latin sentence over the judge may have borne some relation to the state of England at the time of his death. It was 'the motto on the rings of the serjeants, who were called in the same term, in which Cooke was raised to the bench.' The square plate below the feet of the figures bears this inscription:

Marmore sub duro Gulielmus Cocus humatur

Judex justicia notus ubique sua.

Ingenio valuit doctrina cognitione

Necnon et magno præditus eloquio.

Vir bonus atque pius magna pietate coruscās

Virtutum semper verus alumnus erat.

Nunc merito vita defunctum lugimus cheu!

Hoc moriente viro nemo dolore caret.

Some small portions of this brass are unfortunately now lost¹.

On the other side lies a stone which is thus engraved, though now very difficult to be read: 'Eliz. Johannis Lane A. M. hujus ecclesie Rectoris Uxor *κουριδία*, ac dilectissima ob. 9^{no} die Nov. An. Sal. Humanæ 1743, æt. 27. Quem semper acerbum, semper honoratum (voluit sic numen) habebo. Ostendunt terris hanc tantum Fata, neque ultra esse sinunt. She was a wife, take her for all in all, I shall not look upon her like again. Fœmina ingenuis orta parentibus, jam teneris in cunabulis orphana,educta libere: rei familiaris egregie perita. Quot vero, quantasque ærumnas, durante brevissimo hujus vitæ curriculo, per malitiam² clanculum in tenebris operantem, necnon apertam, audacem et impudentem, quinetiam per superbiam in altum evecti pseudo-fratris, unius saltem togati hominis, causas, nullus dubito, sed non sine numine, tam immaturæ mortis, constanti animo pertulit, Summa Dies, cum corda universi hominum generis apertissima fuerint, indicabit. *Διὰ τῶν ἀγνώστων σου παθημάτων ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς Κύριε.*'

On the south and north walls of the chancel are tablets with these inscriptions, 'Marmor Hoc Memoriae sacrum Oliveri Naylor A. M. cujus juxta Uxorem Reliquiæ infra conduntur, olim Hujus Ecclesiæ Rectoris: summa Pietate filii duo posuerunt. Variolis correptus ad Mercedem earum Virtutum capiendam Quæ Eum desideratum Omnibus, Præcipue vero Propinquis suis et amicis efficiunt, abiit decimo octavo die Febrⁱⁱ. anno Dom. MDCCLXXV. Ætatis 71.'

'Sub altari situm est quod mortale fuit Saræ Uxoris O. Naylor A. M. hujus ecclesiæ rectoris. Illa in Mari-

¹ Boutell's *Monumental Brasses of England*.

² Cole, with his usual tendency towards slander and detraction, spares neither the wife, nor her husband. The whole epitaph has been here given, not for its worth, but in order to show what strange compositions sometimes go under this title.

tum Amore, in Liberos Pietate, in Amicos Fidelitate Nulli Secunda: obiit sexto die Martii MDCCLX. Ætatis suæ LIV.'

Under the east window there was in 1744 a small brass with the following inscription: 'Orate pro anima Domini Johannis Scot [rectoris] istius ecclesiæ, qui fecit fieri istam fenestram.' In the pavement of the chancel were: 'Of your charitie praye for the soule of Mrs Hellen Bird Sister to Mr Doctor Harrison parson of the church.' 'Of your charitie praye for the soules of William Bird, and Margaret his wife, which decessed the 20 daye of Aprile in the year of our Lord God 1445¹, on whose soules Jesu have mercy. Amen.' 'Of your charitie pray for the soule of Mr Richard Alanson, late vicar of this church, whch decessed the 28 daye of June in the year of our Lord MCCCCXIX.²' These brasses have all disappeared: two old stone slabs however, which once had short inscriptions, remain, one still in the chancel, the other near the tower arch.

Blomefield mentions, as hanging in the chancel, an achievement with the arms of Duncomb, in memory of Mrs Stephens, who was a member of that family—party per chevron engrailed, sable and argent, 3 talbots' heads erased counterchanged, with Ulster arms, impaling party per chevron, argent and gules, in chief 2 cocks sable, in base a saltyre humetty, or: motto, 'Moriendo vivo.'

The vestry, on the north east, built twenty years ago by the parishioners with some assistance from the rector, is entered from the chancel. Its door is of old oak, and carved after the pattern of the oaken work in the chancel: this as well as its frame-work of stone came from the former rectory house. The porch was erected in 1847 on the site of the original porch, when its eastern stone bench, having long

¹ Since Mr Doctor Harrison died in November 1542, there may be an error in the date, 1445 for 1545.

² This date must be wrong, inasmuch as Mr Richard Alanson's name occurs in wills made so late as April 1521. No doubt 1519 is put for 1529, an x having been omitted.

lain hidden and forgotten in the midst of rubbish, was discovered and at length restored to its proper use. Externally there appear to be two porches to the church; the space, however, previously serving for a porch, was really, as mentioned before, only a part of the south aisle. The doorway, which, since the church restorations so persistently and laudably carried on to completion by the present rector, now leads from the porch directly into the south aisle, by whomsoever put in (and it existed in 1744), is Grecian instead of Gothic like the rest of the building. Its form and style may have been suggested by the nature of the chancel arch, though it is equally possible for them to be due to that utter want of an ecclesiastical taste in architecture, so prevalent until recently. Over this door are the words: 'Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.'

The communion plate consists of two small silver cups, and two plates also of silver. One of the cups is of some antiquity, and is nicely ornamented round the bowl. This is rarely, if ever, used. A cup somewhat larger in size, the gift of the present rector, is that commonly employed. The inside of the bowl is gilt, and at the bottom, so as not to be visible without examination, is the following inscription: 'Dedicated to the service of God by John Chapman, M.A. rector of Milton. 1853.' The larger of the plates has on the rim the arms probably of the donor—ermine, two boars, argent: crest, a boar's head, erect, argent. On the back of the smaller one is: 'Milton Church. The gift of the Rev. L. C. Powys, Curate, 1829.'

The dimensions of the Church are as follows:

	ft. in.			ft. in.	
Chancel	33	1	long by	15	10 wide.
Nave	55	10	"	18	6 "
North aisle	36	2	"	13	6 "
South aisle (including porch).	36	6	"	15	3 "
Tower	12	0	"	8	3 "

The parish registers of Milton are a long way from being in a satisfactory state. The early portion of them has been irrecoverably lost, except so far as the copies annually sent in from 1599 are still in the Bishop of Ely's office. Cole's observations about the registers at Milton are worth recording: '1776. Sending to the clerk for the parish registers, he sent me two paper books, all that he ever saw or heard of, the oldest beginning in 1653, and often very ill kept, the other in 1705. In the former was the usual declaration—These are to certify all men how that Thomas Richards is by the assent and consent of the parishioners of the town of Milton chosen to be register for marriages, births, and burials according to the Act of Parliament bearing date 24 August 1653, and these are to certify farther, that he is approved by me to be a sufficient clearke, and is also sworn to be the register for the said town. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal 26 November 1653.

JAMES BLACKLEY¹.'

The portion now existing begins with a baptism on 6th May 1705, and certainly the condition of the registers even then, and likewise during the remainder of the eighteenth century, does little credit to the person or persons in whose charge they were. 'Registers entrusted till lately (1782) to the care of ignorant and illiterate clerks of the parish: it is no wonder they often forgot to make entries, and no wonder, also, that there are so many defects.'

The first entry of a burial is dated 10 February 1709-10, the previous leaf, all but a very minute fragment, having been torn off. As required by the Act of Parliament of 1678, it is stated, that affidavits respecting the bodies being buried in woollen had been duly made, though such remarks ceased from March 1713-14, and merely again, occur, but then not

¹ Mayor of Cambridge in 1649.

more than a few times, between 1731 and 1739. The Act was only repealed in 1814.

Mixed up with the usual entries, the earliest of the existing books contains a large number of notices about collections made in the church on briefs, and the payments of the proceeds to the appointed receivers, when they came round for the money. The briefs were very numerous: we find thirty-four received in four years beginning with 1710. Besides, not only were they issued on account of losses from fire, inundations, thunder and hail, &c., and to procure assistance towards the building or reparation of churches, funds were equally attempted to be raised in this way for other, and somewhat unexpected objects. The first notice is taken from Cole.

1676. Collected for 30 Protestant ministers, which the emperor [of Germany] gave to the king of Spain to serve in the galleys at Naples, and released at the intercession of Charles II. of England, 3s. 2*d*.

March 7th, 1707-8. Collected for y^e Protestant Church at Oberbarmen in y^e Dutchy of Berg in Germany, 3s. 6*d*.

September 21st, 1709. Collected for y^e Relief, Subsistence, and Settlement, of y^e Pore, Distressed Palatines near y^e Rhine in Germany, 8s. 7*d*.

October 16th, 1709. Collected for y^e Protestant Church at Mittau in Courland and Livonia, 1s. 7*d*.

1715. Cowkeepers' Brief nere London, 2s. 1*d*. (Does this bear upon the history of the destructive cattle plague, from whose ravages our fellow-countrymen recently suffered so much?)

A table of fees, framed and glazed, hung in 1744 against the north wall of the chancel: the payments are somewhat different now:

Fees settled by the minister and the whole parish of Milton,
in the county of Cambridge.

		s.	d.	
Marriage	{ in the parish	{ to the Minister.....	2	6
		{ to the Clerk	1	0
	{ out of the parish	{ the Minister.....	5	0
		{ to the Clerk.....	2	6
		s.	d.	
Burial	{ to the Minister.....	2	0	
	{ to the Clerk	2	0	

That no person at the time of being churched offer less than sixpence.

April 20, 1742.

GEO. TOWERS, Minister.

THO. PAGE, Junr. }
HEN. CHAMBERS, } Churchwardens.

Milton churchyard, like the others in the neighbourhood, is rather small: it is partially planted with shrubs, and carefully kept. Until lately there was in it at the east end of the chancel, and close to the wall, an altar tomb of free stone to the memory of Richard Stephens, rector of the parish, who died in 1727, and desired to be buried in that spot. The south side of this tomb still lies on the ground opposite the east window and bears an inscription to his widow: 'Diana Stephens, Filia Francisci Duncomb de Comitatu Surriæ Baronetti, et Relicta Ricardi Stephens, in summa tabula hujus monumenti memorati, cum per decem menses marito superfuisset, ob. 16^o die Junii 1728, æt. 65.'

A descendant of Mr Stephens' family writes in 1856: 'His wife who survived him, gave the College £200 towards the erection of the New Building on the S. W. of the chapel, [which had been begun in 1724,] and the Society, in a fit of violent gratitude, [out of regard and gratitude, an instance both of their humanity and good nature,] put up the tomb now gone to decay, Dr Snape, the provost, composing the epitaph. And it is to be hoped the stone-cutter was very

grateful to him for a good job, for the Doctor very ingeniously spun it out to 50 lines of prose.' The slab lies now in the pavement of the chancel: its inscription is all but obliterated. Cole has preserved it¹.

On the east end of the church is a stone, whose inscription has been thought to be, but surely without reason, something of a curiosity, because only one day is mentioned, the day of the young man's death: 'Here lies the body of Th^s. Camon, who died June 15th, 1726, aged 17. His master and mistress erect this little monument to his memory, as an acknowledgem^t of his faithful service the 4 years he lived with them [at the rectory]. God grant that he & they may find mercy with the Lord in that day.'

The Rev. John Mickleborough, rector of Landbeach, put a head and foot stone to the memory of a former fellow of Caius College, who, having obtained the rectory of Bincombe in Dorsetshire, resigned it, and lived the remainder of his life in S. Edward's parish, Cambridge: 'H. S. E. Johannes Kitchingman A.M. regnante Carolo natus, Cromwello rerum potiente literis innutritus Cantabrigiæ, post restauratam ecclesiam presbyter, Collegii Gonv. et Caii Socius, Exinde ad rectoriam de Bincomb in Agro Dorsetiensi evectus, quam quidem, quod locus parum arriserit, abdicavit, possessionem ratus beneficii cum alter obiret munus, sophistice magis quam vere defendi. Temporis sic moribus effusis pariter et fucatu abhorruit; vixit temperans, senio confectus obiit annum agens 91, Jun. X, MDCCXXIX.'

Could we depend upon an expression in the *Rotuli Hundredorum*¹, a residence house for the rector existed at Milton in 1279. He does not appear to have then inhabited it; at least, taking the messuage and cottage there mentioned to mean one and the same building, and that properly the rectory house, it was in the temporary occupation of Alan

¹ MSS. Vol. vi. fol. 5.

Textor, not of Peter de Woseri. However, a doubt about this being the rectory-house may allowably be entertained, since the original Latin is by no means clear upon the point, and may be thought to signify merely that a farmer of that day hired both the farm and farm-house, which the afore-said rector possessed because belonging to his living. Still there must have been some house wherein the rector, being at that time in sole charge of the parish did, at all events, commonly dwell, as of right and custom. And' this house continued for a long period (and afterwards occasionally) to be inhabited by him, even when the living had come under the additional charge of another by the establishment of a vicarage. For we know that both parish authorities did reside in Milton at the same time, and, no doubt, worked harmoniously together, each performing the duties which were considered to belong to him. In 1782 Cole described the rectory-house as an old mansion, and added that it had been uninhabited many years. This is probably an exaggeration, inasmuch as Oliver Naylor only died in 1775, and he certainly must have lived there occasionally, and his curate it may be, when he was himself elsewhere. The old premises were taken down in 1846, and a new house built by Mr Chapman. This house is not very large, though sufficiently so perhaps, very comfortable, and apparently well arranged. The situation of it is extremely convenient from its proximity to the church, and yet being hardly removed from the village. The church, with the rectory-house and garden, form altogether a pleasing picture.

A vicarage-house, as was to be expected, once existed in Milton, independently of, and contemporaneous with, the house of residence for the rector. It stood near the present high road, a little to the west of the church. At least, sixty years ago, a dilapidated cottage, now long removed, 'a poor wretched hovel, tenanted by a farm-labourer,' went commonly in the parish by the name of the vicarage. It still

existed whilst Mr Knight was rector, since in a terrier signed by him and delivered at the bishop of Ely's visitation in 1779, he takes notice of 'a cottage belonging to the vicarage.'

In 1836 the parish school, which then existed at Milton, was taken into union with the Central National Society in London for promoting the education of the poor in the principles of the Established Church. But to benefit the inhabitants in a still greater degree, by increasing the means of instructing them, the provost and fellows of King's College, to whom the advowson of the rectory pertained, soon took advantage of the Act of 6 and 7 Guliel. IV. entitled 'An Act to facilitate the conveyance of sites for school-rooms,' &c. They therefore gave land, and erected proper premises in 1839. From the deed drawn up on that occasion the following is an extract—"the said premises to be used, occupied and employed in and for the maintenance and carrying on of a school for the religious education of the children of the poor of the parish of Milton, and the neighbourhood thereof, in the principles of the Christian religion according to the doctrines and discipline of the United Church of England and Ireland, and such other branches of useful knowledge as the vicar¹ for the time being shall in his discretion think proper." The founders of the school then give the vicar absolute right over the school, and the *mistress* thereof, only reserving to themselves visitorial power and inspection.

The following account² of certain visitations of Milton church and its parish authorities is well worth adding, not merely for the positive information which it furnishes, but equally, if not more so, for the very interesting particulars contained therein respecting the proceedings instituted against some contumacious officers. The Latin notes of these Visitations are here expanded, and the contracted words written at length. It may be, however, that the clerk himself, who

¹ The rectory had for many years been regarded, through default of residence, as merely a sinecure.

² From the Records in the Diocesan Registry.

wrote the notes, could not have done this, since the peculiar way, in which by training and habit he kept them, was to him a kind of short-hand.

Visitatio Reverendi in Christo Patris et Domini, Domini Lanceloti, permissione divina, Eliensis Episcopi, tenta et celebrata Die Martis existente quinto die mensis Junii, Anno Domini 1610, hora nona ante meridiem ejusdem diei; in Ecclesia parochiali Beate Marie Majoris juxta Forum Ville Cantebrigiensis. Visitabuntur Decanatus de Campo, Barton, et Chesterton.

M^r Abraham Gates, Rector de Weston Colvylye, Concio-nator.

Milton.

M^r — Rector.

Sequestr' Rectorie¹. Co[mparuit].

M^r Willelmus Kellam Cur'. Co.

Johannes Hewtson	} Gard[iani].	} Co. Jur'.
Johannes Foote		
Edwinus Graye	} Inquis ² .	
Willelmus Briggs		
Johannes Foote	} Gard ³ .—Presentatur that they have	
Johannes Huteson		

a lynnyn cloathe for the Communion Table, but not a convenient one. And the Churchyard fence is in decaye.

Et 16^o Julii, 1610, exhibita citacione originali per Jo. Stynnett, literatum³, &c., citatur predictus Huteson, sed pre-

¹ Roger Goade had died in April, and his son Thomas was not instituted until September, 1610.

² These inquirers or quest-men, are sometimes termed sidesmen, correctly, sidemen. The word may be a corruption for synod-men, but it is also used actually for sidemen. Since at Hadleigh in Suffolk two men so called with long wands are wont to walk up and down the north and south aisles during the whole time of divine service, to keep order.

³ The officer who executed the citations was called *mandatarius*, the citation being styled in the acts of court *mandatum originale*. Oughton (*Ordo Judiciorum*, Vol. I. p. 44, Tit. xxi.) says, "Quivis literatus (licet non intelligat linguam Latinam) dicitur, et admittitur, ex longo usu, idoneus (in hac parte) mandatarius: oportet tamen, ut sit literatus, ita quod possit literas scriptas, vel impressas, legere.)"

dictus Foote perquisitus non inventus¹, qui ambo preconizati comparuerunt; fatentur². [Moniti] Ad parandum a convenient communion table cloath for the table, et ad reparandum

Pd. 17d. Fensuram cemetarii predicti, et ad certificandum inde proximo [die juridico] post Festum Natalis Domini proximum.

Et 14^o. Januarii 1610-11, dicti Gardiani preconizati, comparuit Huitson. [Moniti] Ad certificandum inde sexto die juridico jam proxime sequenti, viz. 4 Marcii proximi.

Et dicti [Gardiani] 4 Marcii predicti, preconizati non comparuerunt. Expectantur in 8 Aprilis proximi³.

Et 8 Aprilis 1611, dicti Gardiani preconizati non comparuerunt. Expectantur in proximum [diem juridicum].

Et 15 Aprilis 1611, dicti Gardiani preconizati non comparuerunt. Suspenduntur.

Pd. 4s. 6d. Et 29 Aprilis 1611, coram Doctore Gager⁴ &c. comparuerunt ambo. Absolvuntur⁵, tactis [evangeliiis] &c., et viva voce certificaverunt that they have a linnen cloth for the communion table, and the churchyard fenced, et dimittuntur.

¹ The apparitor, therefore, had not been able to serve the citation personally upon John Foote. In such cases a citation, technically called *citatio viis et modis*, was affixed to the door of the party's house, or, if his house could not be found, upon the church-door.

² The course of the proceedings was this: The apparitor exhibited the original citation and the parties were called (*preconizati*): if they appeared they either confess (*fatentur*), or deny (*negant*), the matters articulated against them: the judge then gave his decree, which in an early stage of a cause was generally an order to appear at the next court-day.

³ They were *waited for* as long as possible, before suspension was decreed for their contumacy. A form of excommunication contains these words—*Sepius publice præconizatos, diu et sufficienter expectatos, et nullo modo comparentes*.

⁴ He was Chancellor, and held various offices at different times under the see of Ely. Bentham and Stevenson, Vol. i. p. 197: Vol. ii. pp. 10, 20, 28, 33.

⁵ Huteson and Foote had been suspended for their contumacy in not appearing, which suspension was the lesser excommunication, and now they were absolved on paying the sum mentioned in the margin.

Oliverus Frohocke, generosus. Presentatur y^t he before Mr D^r Goade, & diverse others of y^e parishe of Milton, used unreverent speaches against Mr Willm Kellam, his minister: viz. He is a busye and contentiouse persone, and suche a one as settethe his neighbors together by the eares: and it is his daylye practise.

Et 16^o Julii, 1610, exhibita citacione originali per Jo. Stynnett, literatum, &c. perquisitus fuit dictus Frohoke, sed non inventus, qui preconizatus comparuit, et objecto ei articulo predicto, dictus Frohoke petiit copiam citacionis et bille detectionis¹ predictæ respective, et terminum sibi assignari ad respondendum dicte detectioni in proximum diem juridicum. Dominus monuit eundem Frohoke ad respondendum detectioni predictæ ad statim, in presentia Frohoke petentis prout prius. Et Dominus primo, 2^o, et 3^o, instantanter instantius et instantissime eundem Frohoke monuit ad respondendum bille detectionis predictæ ad statim, dicto Frohoke petente prout supra. Tunc Dominus ad petitionem dicti Frohoke concessit ei copiam detectionis predictæ, et assignavit ei ad respondendum detectioni predictæ proximo die juridico.

Et primo Octobris, 1610, dictus Frohoke preconizatus non comparuit. Expectatur in proximum [diem juridicum].

Et 8 Octobris, 1610, dictus Frohoke preconizatus comparuit. [Monitus] ad comparendum 4 die juridico jam proxime sequenti, duodecimo viz. Novembris proximi.

Et 12^o Novembris 1610, dictus Mr Frohocke preconizatus non comparuit. Expectatur in proximum [diem juridicum] post Festum Natalis Domini proximum.

Et 14^o Januarii, 1610[-11], dictus Mr Frohoke preconizatus non comparuit. Pena in proximum.

Et 21^o Januarii, 1610[-11], dictus Mr Frohocke preconizatus non comparuit. Ex consistorio &c. Dominus eum dimisit².

¹ The presentments of the churchwardens were thus styled.

² It seems the Chancellor was fairly tired out.

Oliverus Frohoke, predictus, generosus } Presentatur y^t
 Thomas Foote }

the ould Churchwardens delivered to y^e parishioners theire Accompts at Easter last by byll Indented, but M^r Frohoke receyved the sayd bills & delivered them to Tho. Foote, & what is become of them we' knowe not.

Et 16^o Julii, 1610, exhibita citacione originali per Jo. Stynnett, literatum, &c. citatur predictus Tho. Foote, sed predictus Frohoke² fuit perquisitus et non inventus, qui ambo preconizati [comparent] et dicunt that they have made a juste accompte of theire churchwardenshippe, & y^t it is written and set downe in the churche booke there, and allowed of by the cumpanye then present. And y^t this writinge in the sayd detection mentioned was an Accompte of y^e wholl, viz. all whatsoever they had receyved and layed oute in the tyme of theire churchwardenshippe, which they estemed not of, for that it was before written & sett downe in theire sayd church booke.

Willelmus Jollye. Presentatur apud Chesterton for that he holdeth lands in Chesterton and refuseth to paye that which he is levied towards the relyf of the Poore in that case provided. This matter is entred amongst Chesterton causes & there delte in orderlye, as it dothe & may there appere.

Die Mercurii existente XIX die Mensis Maii, A.D. 1613, hora nona ante meridiem &c., in ecclesia parochiali B. Marie Majoris &c., Visitacio ordinaria Lanceloti &c., per Venerabilem virum Magistrum, Wilhelmum Gager, Ll. Doctorem, vicarium in spiritualibus generalem &c.³

Milton.

Mr. Thomas Goade, Rector. Co.

¹ The churchwardens of 1610 present the churchwardens of 1609.

² Administration of his estate was granted to his son George in 1614.

³ The Preacher for the Deaneries of Camps, Barton, and Chesterton was Mr. John Lively, Vicar of Over.

Mr. Willelmus Kellam, Cur. Non Co. excusatus.

Oliverus Harte	} Gard.	} Co. omnes et jur'.
Henricus Thurban		
Henricus Briggs	} Inquis ^s ..	
Willelmus Hurrell		

General Episcopal Visitation, Die Jovis, 2^o Maii, A.D. 1616¹.

Milton.

Mr. D^r. Goade, Rector. Non Co. excusatur.

Mr. Willelmus Kellam, Curatus. Co.

Thomas Frohocke	} Gard.	} Co. omnes et jur'.
Gawinus Grave		
Willelmus Briggs	} Inquis ^s .	
W ^s . Hurrell		

Parochial Visitation of D^r. King², Chancellor to the Lord Bishop of Elie [Mathew Wren], for the Deaneries of Chesterton, Barton, & Camps, July 31^o. 1665.

Milton.

John Graves	} Gard.
Henry Pate	

- *1. The Font to be new ledged.
- *2³. The bell cracked to be new cast and amended citra Festum Pasche, & certificare in diem Sabbati proxime sequentem.
- *3. M^{rs}. Harris her chappell is defective both in timber & led. Moniti Gard'. ad reparandum et certificandum ut prius.

¹ The Preacher for these Deaneries was Mr. Theodore Bathurst, Vicar of Thriplowe.

² Bentham and Stevenson, Vol. II. pp. 11, 28.

³ The things done were crossed off.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>+4. The desk to be fringed upon Greene¹
cloth.</p> <p>5. A table of degrees wanting.</p> <p>+6. A book of Cannons wanting.</p> <p>+7. A Locke to the Church dore wanting.</p> <p>+8. A napkin wanting to the Communion.</p> <p>+9. A new patten for the Communion Cup to be changed
& made larger.</p> <p>+10. A booke of Homylies wanting.</p> <p>11. The Fence of the west end of the church to be
amended.</p> <p>+12. The Pulpit to be removed where now it stands to
the place where formerlie it was placed.</p> <p>21°. Aprilis comparuit Jo. Graves, Gard', & certificavit
quod omnia sunt peracta, preter y^e font to be led-
ded & a table of degrees wanting. Habent ad certi-
ficandum de ledding & Table of degrees in diem
Sabbati ante Festum Pentecosti.</p> | <p>} Habent ad
certificandum
de parando
hec omnia ci-
tra diem Sab-
bati post Fes-
tum Pasche
proximum.</p> |
|--|---|

Visitatio Ecclesiarum, &c. per Gulielmum Cooke², Ll. Doc-
torem, Reverendi in Christo Patris Petri [Gunning] Eli-
ensis Episcopi Vicarium generalem. 17°. Junii, 1678.

Milton.

<p>W^m. Kettle Hen. Payton</p>	<p>} Gard'. com^t.</p>
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1. The font wants a new cover and a plugg.
2. The Church rooffe to bee pointed.

¹ Green was the colour ordinarily used in such cases at that time, at least, in Cambridgeshire. But why? Probably for no ecclesiastical reason. Might it not have been to encourage the congregation of Dutch, who, by the special favour of Queen Elizabeth had been tolerated, to practise at Colchester the art and trade of bay (baize) and say making, and for whose protection an Act was passed in 1660? The eating of salt fish was enjoined for one reason, at least, to maintain the fisheries.

² Bentham and Stevenson, Vol. II. pp. 11, 34.

3. The Pullpitt cloath to bee mended.
4. A booke of homilyes to bee provided.
5. The wainscote of y^e seate on y^e south side of y^e chancell to bee wainscoted and y^e wall to bee whited and plaistred.
6. Three keys for y^e poore man's box.
7. Pertition on y^e south side of y^e Church to bee mended and raised higher.
8. The sealing in y^e Chancell to bee mended.
9. A Table of degreese wanting.
10. The north wall of y^e Church to bee whited and plaistred.

Et D^s. monuit eos certificare de peractione ejusdem proximo die Sabbati post festum Sti Michaelis.

Thee weeds in y^e Churchyard to bee cutt downe.

October 1685¹.

Milton.

To cleare y^e Churchyard of weeds, and to mend y^e fencing.

The Church to be pointed and tiled.

The Perticion in y^e Church, where the lime is, to bee taken away.

To provide a table of Degreese and a Plugg for y^e fonte.

To keepe y^e Register in y^e Cheste under 3 locks.

To give notice to S^r Francis Pemberton's Tennante to pave y^e Private Chappell, and to repaire y^e Leadworke, and timber which is rotten.

To give notice to y^e Parson to plaister and white y^e chancell, and to boord y^e seats & seileing where wanting.

¹ This visitation is without *Title* in the original register, but appears to be a visitation of the whole diocese. Francis Turner was bishop, and William Cooke, LL.D., his chancellor.

THE WILLS.

October 10th, 1515, I, *William Rosse* of Mylton, bequeath my soul to God, and to our blessed Lady, and to all the company of heaven; and my body to be buried in the church-yard¹ of Mylton. Imprimis, I bequeath to Sir Richard Alison, my curate, iiiij^{oz}. Hoglaynes² for to pray for me. Item, to All Hallows gylde a shere hogg. Item, to the rood of the same parish a shepe. The residue of my goods I give to Margaret Rosse, my wife, whom I make wholly mine executrix. Hiis testibus, Domino Ricardo Alyson, and Thoma Camson.

Thomas Campion de Meddilton, husbandman, 10th March, 1515-16. To the high altar iijs. iiij^d.: to the church, to buy a chalis and a mass book in paper, jⁿ. vjs. viij^d.: to the making of the glass window on the south side in the church xx^s.: to the reparation of the bells vjs. viij^d.: to William, my eldest son, my house in Milton, and xx comb of malt: to John, my

¹ Burial in the church would not appear to have been a common thing in 1515.

² A sheep was called a hog or hoglayne (hogling) until he was old enough to be shorn. A sheer-hog was a two-year old sheep, one capable of being shorn. "It would be curious to see at one view the various names in use in the different counties in England for lambs and sheep, to distinguish their various ages and conditions."—Moor's *Suffolk Words*, under 'Dans.'

son, my osier holt in Waterbeche common, and x comb of malt: to Sir Richard Alison, priest, viij marks to sing for my soul a year, and that he begin at the feast of the nativity of S. John the Baptist next: I give to the causey making in Hall end¹ in the said parish vi^{li} xiijs iiij^d, and if it be not spent on that, then to the other causeys in the town. Witnesses, Sir Richard Alison, Nicolas Hawkins, and William Richard.

Robert Sarondar of Milton, 1st November, 1520. To the high altar a comb of barley: x^s for a trental² for Maryon, my wife, at Milton, at four solemn feasts, Christmas, Easter, Whitsuntyde, and Hallowmas: to Humphrey Feiston, my best brass pot: residue to Emma my wife. Witnesses, Thomas Baston and William Richard.

John Nicolson de Middelton, 20th February, 1520-1. To the high altar ijs iiij^d: to my wife my house, whilst a widow, and if she marry, to John Nicolson, my son: and if he die sans issue, I give it to the church, and the churchrevys (?) do [pay] for me ijs yearly, viz. to the vicar for Dirige³ and Bederoll⁴ viij^d, and for drink and bread [to the ringers] xvj^d: to my wife my best cow, my winter corn, half my crop of barley &c. the acre in the Hollow, my half acre of freeland, and if he⁵ die without issue, my executors to glaze the two

¹ Cole says upon this, "Hall end is the lane where my house stands going down to the river, and the common lying on its bank, and passing by the hall close on the left hand, where I take it the old manor-house stood, as appears by foundations, fishponds, ditches, &c. though the present possessor lives in a farm-house nearer the church, and which was certainly built by William Cooke in Queen Mary's time, out of the ruins of Denny or some neighbouring Abbey. Hill close no doubt a misnomer for Hall close."—Vol. LX. p. 118.

² "Thirty masses on so many days, one on each. Trental comes from trigintalia."—*Chron. Precios.* p. 109.

³ Clay's *Private Prayers of Queen Elizabeth*, p. 60, n. Park. Soc.

⁴ A list of persons to be prayed for. His name was to be inserted therein.

⁵ Cole has committed some error here, and, probably, by omission.

windows, one in our lady's chapel, and the other by the holy water stocke¹, after the proportion of the new window: to my son the second cow and furniture²: to each of my god-children a bushel of barley: to Nicolson of Clement Hostel³, v^s for half a trental when he is priest: to All Hal-lows Gylde x^d: to the reparation of the bells x^d. Witnesses, Master Richard Allyson, my gostly ffather, Robert Stede, William Campion.

Emmota Sander of Milton, 12th March 1520-1. I give to the high altar pro decimis oblitis a pair of flaxen sheets: to the gild of All Saints a cawdron⁴: item, to the gild of S. Katerine, a kettle with a bell: to the bells xx^d: to the torches vj^d: to Esybell Gynnyn [Jenning?] my daughter, the residue. Also I will have done for me yearly by the space of six years xx^d: that is for to seye, viij^d for the Dirige, and xvj^d to the ringers. Witnesses, Sir Richard Alanson, and Robert Porter.

John Bedall of Milton, 4th April, 1521. To the high altar and bells two bushels of barley each: to the torches one bushel: to Master Doctor Herryson a great pan with a kettle: to my wife, all my household stuff, a heckford⁵ and the house I dwell in, for life, and then to be sold for the health of my soul. M^r Doctor Herryson supervisor. Witnesses, Sir Richard Alanson vicar, John Fayrchyld.

William Rycharde de Mylton, 8th April, 1521. To the high altar two quarters of barley: to the rood loft xx combs of malt for painting it, and if any money be left of the malt, to buy candlesticks to set before it⁶: to the bells vj^s viij^d: to

¹ Stoppe or Stoupe ?—*Glossary of Architecture*, Vol. I. p. 448, edit. Oxford, 1850.

² Trappings, harness.

³ At Cambridge (Fuller, *Hist. of the Univ. of Cambridge*).

⁴ *Hist. of Landbeach*, pp. 38, 39.

⁵ Heifer, see Forby's *Vocabulary* under Heifker.

⁶ In front of it.

the torches vj^s viij^d: to the Redyng of the Church x comb of malt: to the gild of All Hallows ij^s iiij^d: to the gild of S. Katerine ij^s iiij^d: to my mother x comb of malt: to John, my son, my free house that I dwell in, with a whole Theyme Weyre to the plough, viz. iiij oxen, ij horses and mares, and as much barley as will sow xx acres of land, and to enter, when he is sixteen years old; and if he die, the barley to go to the Redyng of the church, and the house to be sold, and the money disposed in charity for my soul: to my daughters Isabel, Rose, and Annes, a cow and quarter of malt each: an obit to be kept by my wife till John comes of age, and to the priest for the Dirige iiij^d, for the Bederoll iiij^d, to the ringers xij^d. Master Vicar and Nicolas Foote supervisors. Witnesses, Sir Richard Alison, vicar and William Foote.

Rose Cokk de Milton, 16th April, 1521. I, Rose Cokk, late widow of Thomas Campion of Milton, and his executrix, by the consent of William Cock, now my husband, make my testament. My body to the Churchyard of Milton: to the high altar a comb of barley: to William Cock, my son, xj pewter platters, and a coverlit: to the churchwardens of Milton my customary messuage in Waterbeche with the holt in the hollow, my fen in Chetering with pasturing of xvijj cattle in Beche fen, to have and to hold the said messuage holt, fen, and pasturing, cum pertinenciis for evermore: and they to keep my anniversary for ever, for the soul of my late husband, Thomas Campion, my soul, and the souls of my benefactors, in Milton Church, and to expend thereat for Dirige and Bederoll to the Vicar xij^d, and to the ringers at the Dirige ij^s viij^d, and the residue of the profit of the premises yearly to be put in a chest in the church to help to pay the king's tax, when it shall happen, for the poor people: to Annes Munsey, my daughter, my best gown save one: to Joane Page my kyrtell next the best: to Margaret Campion, my gown bound with shanks: to Margaret Efitson a sanguin

kyrtell and a shete: to Joan Gilbert a petycote and a sleveless kyrtell: to Thomas Woodcall a brass pot and pan: to William Cock, my husband, the tenement called the tyled house for his life, then to Harry Can and his heirs for ever; and if Harry die, to be sold and given in works of charity: to my husband, William Cock, a ground called Wyllyers, and then to William Cock, my son, for ever, and if William die, to be sold and disposed of in deeds of charity for my and late husband's souls: to the churchwardens of Milton an acre of land for ever to pay yearly to the sepulchre light j^d¹: and the residue of the profit [to be put] in a chest to be applied to the reparation of the body of the church, and other repairs, at the discretion of the churchwardens: to Joane Page my blue harnessed gyrdle, ij platters, ij pewter dishes, ij candlesticks next the best: to Rose Richard, my goddaughter, a candlestick and a shete. And I will and command William, my son, and charge upon my blessing, that he in no wise let the execution of this my will, as he will answer before God. Witnesses, Nicolas Foote, and also Mr Richard Alanson, my gostly father.

William Edwards of Mylton, 12th April, 1538. My soul to God, our Lady, and All Saints: to be buried in the churchyard of Milton: to the high altar xij^d: to M^r Doctor Harryson, parson there, that he be good unto me, and in recompense for my tithes forgotten, xij^d: to the reparation of the church² a comb of barley: to the bells ij bushels of barley: to the ringers of the same bells viij^d: for my father's and my own souls xvj^d to be distributed: to the sepulchre light ij bushels of barley: and ij bushells of rye to the

¹ *Hist. of Waterbeach*, p. 60.

² Henry Wylliott of Horningsey left in 1541 to the reparations of Milton Church vj^s. viii^d. It was not uncommon to make similar bequests, but, of course, they did not necessarily imply that repairs were at the time actually going on, they were only intended to form a fund which might be ready for use when required.

torches : to my children George, William, Agnes, legacies of corn : to the gild of All Hallows ij bushels of barley : to Margaret Condatt, my sister, ij bushels of barley, and j of rye : to Harry Edward, my brother, my bay foal : the legacy of my daughter Agnes to be delivered to William Wryght. Margaret, my wife, to be executrix, and John Crispe, vicar, to be supervisor, and to have xij^d for his trouble. Witnesses, Syr John Cryspe, vicar and curate there, Richard Wyndffylde, John Goune, Henry Edward.

Thomas Eversden de Milton, 28th January, 1588-9. My soul to God, our Lady, and all Saints : to the repairs of the church v^s : to John, my eldest son, the house I dwell in, &c. : to William, my son, vj^{li} : to John, my son, a petycote¹ of his mother. Supervisors, Henry Briggs and Richard Foote. Witnesses, William Gotobed curate, John Norman.

¹ For his own use ? The Christ's Hospital boys still wear, as they did in the reign of Edward VI., such an article of dress.

THE CHARITIES.

The Report of the Charity Commissioners informs us¹, that by the Inclosure Award for the parish of Milton 1 a. 0 r. 9 p. of freehold land, and 15 a. 2 r. 5 p. of copyhold land, fine arbitrary, chiefly in Backsbite Fen, and both tithe free, were allotted in 1802 to the trustees of the town lands in lieu of their rights of common and other property. This statement, however, is hardly accurate, for on inspection the Award is found actually to assign 18 a. 3 r. 21 p. to Milton, or 2 a. 1 r. 7 p. beyond what is stated in the Report. So, also, in 1818, on the inclosure of Waterbeach, there were apportioned to the churchwardens and overseers of the poor for their freehold lands, &c., 10 a. 0 r. 5 p. of copyhold land in Chittering, next to the Stretham turnpike. This last quantity was enfranchised in 1859 at an expense of £80.

The charity land brings in about £77 a year. At a vestry meeting of the parishioners held in January 1850, it was agreed, that in future half of the annual proceeds should be distributed among the poor: one quarter set apart for the repairs of the church, and the remaining quarter for the maintenance of the highways.

The earliest known contributor to the charity fund was Rose Cokh in 1521, an abstract of whose will has been already printed. Her bequests were to be employed for the obtaining of spiritual benefits to herself and friends, for church purposes, for the payment, on behalf of the poor, of

¹ Vol. xxxi. pp. 123, 124, London, 1835.

the king's tax, when it should happen, and for the reparation of the body of the church. The next contributors appear to have been two lords of the manor, William Cooke in 1549, and Edward Newman in 1616: the rent of the land they gave was to be expended on the repair of the highways, and on the relief of the poor.

Dr Thomas Goade, then rector, gave in 1622 two acres of meadow land in Lugg Holough, the produce or rents of which were to be distributed by himself during his life, and after his decease by the churchwardens, among the most indigent (chiefly widows) and impotent people, yearly at the feasts of All Saints and the Purification of the Virgin Mary, in equal portions.

Thomas Whiteage (Whitcaye?) and Constance his wife surrendered in 1634 at a court holden for the manor of Milton five acres of arable land to the use of Dr Thomas Goade for his life, then to certain trustees who were especially named, and their heirs: and they directed that the proceeds arising from the land should be applied to the same purposes as Dr Goade was accustomed to apply what arose from his own gift.

In 1638 the inhabitants purchased five roods of land, which were thenceforward known as the Town plot: the rent of these, together with the rent of the Town holt, which came into the possession of the parish, also by purchase, about the same time, was to be spent in the reparation of the ways and the relief of the poor. From the rent of the former seven shillings seem to have been set apart to defray the expenses incurred on procession day, when the bounds of the parish were beaten.

In 1646 and 1647 two sums of money amounting together to £50. 2s., one acre of land, and £6, wherewith another half-acre was probably purchased, were given over to the inhabitants of the parish of Milton by Simon Harris and Thomas Batchcroft, master of Caius College, as compensation

for the enjoyment in severalty of two closes of pasture, containing together 13 acres, each discharged of common rights. Respecting the disposal of the money nothing more is said, than that it was intended for the poor people of Milton: on the contrary certain persons, who are named, were enfeoffed of the land, whose rent was to be received yearly by the churchwardens, and also applied for the benefit and relief of the poor of the said parish.

In 1657 Thomas Richardes surrendered one acre and a half of land called Francis Holt, for the use and relief of the poor inhabitants of the town of Milton. Since Thomas Richardes was one of the feoffees for the management of the land last mentioned, and the quantity is exactly the same, may not this transaction be the transference of a trust by the survivor of the body, rather than a new gift made to the parishioners?

John Ellis in 1660¹ made over one acre and a half of land in Island field, which he had lately purchased, to Thomas and Elias Richardes, upon trust, after his own and his wife's decease, that the poor people of Milton should be succoured and relieved from time to time for ever with the yearly rents and profits thereof in such sort and manner as should be agreed upon and thought meet by the chiefest part of the inhabitants for the time being.

Thomas Richardes surrendered one and a half acre of arable land in Island field, in 1670, to Richard Foot and others. Though lying in the same field with John Ellis' gift, this cannot well have been the same piece of land, inasmuch as the objects of the trust were not the same. The

¹ Three years later he met with a considerable loss. We learn from a list of Briefs in one of the Register books belonging to Kempston in Bedfordshire, that in 1663 there were collected for a fire in Cambridge-shire at Milton for John Ellis the sum of x^s. vj^d. He was probably connected with the Goade family, for Dr Thomas Goade names in his will 'my brother Mr Ellis of Milton'.

new trustees and their heirs were to permit the churchwardens and overseers of the parish of Milton for the time being to receive the rents and profits and spend them on the repairs of the church, or the relief of the poor, at their discretion. The land must rather have been that with which the names of John Graves, Thomas Graves, and Margaret Richardes were connected, as donors, and whose rent was appointed to be distributed between the church and the poor at the will of the churchwardens and overseers.

By will dated 2nd May, 1682, Dr Benjamin Whichcote, rector of Milton, bequeathed unto the parishioners of the same town his two acres of land lying in Fodder Fen, in Waterbeach holough, and also his other five acres lying in Chittering, (which he had purchased of Alexander and Margaret Tempest,) after his decease, for the better maintenance of the poor of Milton for ever. He likewise gave £100 for pious and charitable uses, to be paid within two years of his death, £20 whereof were to go to the town of Milton, to be laid out upon a yearly revenue to teach children to read and write.

At a court holden for the manor of Waterbeach cum Denney in 1801 John Wilson and others were admitted to two acres of fen in Waterbeach holough, to hold to them and their heirs at a rent of 2s., in trust for the parishioners of Milton, to the intent that they, and the survivors of them, should lay out and apply all the clear yearly profits thereof in and about the necessary reparation of the parish church of Milton.

All the Milton charity land lying in the parish of Waterbeach, at the time of the inclosure, was freehold: how it became so did not appear, since the trustees of Milton had no deed of enfranchisement to show.

THE INCUMBENTS.

THE incumbents of the church of Milton went under a variety of titles—rector, sinecure¹ rector, vicar, curate, and sequestrator. The following two lists of them have been drawn up with considerable care and research, still they, no doubt, are far from being devoid of errors. The early names are taken from Cole²; the later from a variety of sources. Three independent causes rendered the list of the vicars the most difficult to complete, even so far as this has been accomplished:—1. The imperfection of the Bishop of Ely's registers. 2. Because the vicars occasionally held their preferment simply as sequestrators, and thus their names could not appear in those registers. 3. The rector sometimes took upon himself also the office of vicar, so that if he had any one to assist him in his duties, it was only a stipendiary and resident curate.

THE RECTORS.

Peter de Woseri, according to the *Rotuli Hundredorum*, was rector in 1279. The chaplain of the manor chapel, we learn from the same authority, was then named Robert.

Henry. A priest of this name was parson of Milton. No year is given as the date of his incumbency.

Ralph was rector at the very beginning of the fourteenth century: a fact of which we are informed in the archdeacon's book.

¹ Though this word has been employed in conformity with common use, non-resident would have been a more appropriate term.

² MSS. Vol. xviii. fol. 84 b.

P....., (however the name is to be filled up,) was presented, whilst rector, to the living of Littlebury near Saffron Walden, 15th March, 1345-6.

John Scot was instituted to the rectory, 29th May, 1349, on the presentation of Roger le Strange. His predecessor, like the vicar John de Borewell, must have fallen a victim to the plague, "the Black Death," which at that time was desolating England. For the clergy did their duty manfully, not fearing to expose themselves to its contagion, so that the number of them who fell victims to the pestilence was very large¹. John Scot's family was clearly connected with the parish, one of the same name having occupied land therein at least as early as 1279. He was buried in the chancel immediately underneath the east window, which had been put in at his expense. Possibly, the stone still existing there with the matrix of a short brass inscription, belonged to his grave.

John Epurston died about the end of the year 1395.

Eubulo le Strange succeeded to the rectory 27th January, 1395-6, on the death of his predecessor, John Epurston. He was presented by John le Strange, lord of Knockin, and died himself in 1399.

Philip Seneschal followed Eubulo le Strange. The noble lady Matilda le Strange, lady of Knockin, presented him; and he was admitted to the rectory, 18th September, 1399. Philip Seneschal resigned the living three years after.

*Eudo la Zouch*² was admitted to the rectory, 10th May, 1402, on the presentation of Henry IV., in consequence of the

¹ Hook's *Lives of the Archbishops of Canterbury*, Vol. iv. pp. 105—129; *Hist. of Landbeach*, p. 102. It was so memorable, that it became an epoch from which charters and other instruments were sometimes dated (Nicolas' *Chronology of History*, p. 389).

² Eudo la Zouch was also chancellor of the University. Fuller, *Hist.* sub anno 1396. Baker, *Hist. of St John's Coll.* ed. J. E. B. Mayor, 40, 41. Cooper, *Ann.* [1380] Vol. i. p. 118.

minority of Richard le Strange, the patron. He gave to Philip Seneschal, in exchange for Milton, the rectory of Middle Claydon in Buckinghamshire, then in the diocese of Lincoln. Eudo la Zouch very soon got tired of his new preferment, for

Thomas Kirkebird having been presented by the same king, and also on the minority of the patron, was instituted, 15th November, 1403. He had effected an exchange with Eudo la Zouch, and vacated in his favour the living of Hogsthorpe in the county of Lincoln.

John Woodham was instituted, 5th November, 1406, Richard le Strange presenting him. Thomas Kirkebird had resigned the rectory, receiving in exchange for it the living of Suldrop¹, in Lincolnshire.

William Lawender is mentioned as parson of Milton, and, of course, as resident on his living, in the return of the gentry of the county, which certain commissioners were appointed to make in 1433². He was probably instituted in 1429, in which year a mandate to induct (without a name) on presentation of Lord Richard le Strange, lord of Knockin and Milton, was issued.

Thomas Spake resigned the rectory in 1449.

John Pevey succeeded on the resignation of Thomas Spake.

Walter Luyton (Ruyton?) is said to have become rector in 1472.

James Strathberell or *Streytberell* occurs as rector in 1488 and 1493. Was he the rector instituted on the nomination of George Stanley, lord le Strange, 2nd June, 1484?

Richard Hownson was rector in 1506.

Richard Harrison was rector in 1516, and died in November, 1542. He was official to James Stanley, bishop of Ely, in 1507 and 1512, and acted in the Consistorial Court.

¹ No doubt, Souldrop in the county of Bedford, and then diocese of Lincoln.

² Fuller's *Worthies of England*, Vol. i. p. 247, edit. 1840.

He had the degree of Doctor of Decrees, and likewise of Doctor of Laws¹.

Richard Johnes, chaplain, was presented, 31st January, 1542-3, by Edward, Earl of Derby, on the death of Richard Harrison. His being styled chaplain may have meant that he was chaplain of the manor chapel in Milton Church. His name occurs in connexion with the rectory in 1545 and 1551.

John Moodyer was instituted, 7th September, 1555, on the resignation of Richard Johnes, and presentation of Edward, Earl of Derby. He still continued rector 9th June, 1561; or, perhaps he had from some circumstance or other himself resigned his preferment, and been again presented. For the rectory is stated to have been vacant in 1557, and other names are mentioned as holding it during about ten years from 1555, namely Richard Jouns, John Wood, John Dryer, and John Perys. William Gotobed was curate, both in February 1557-8, and January 1558-9.

James Whytfelld was rector in 1565. He is also placed among the vicars under that year, so that he must have held both offices, and been resident in a double capacity. He soon, however, gave up his living, since

John Taylor, A.M. was instituted, 5th June, 1568, on the resignation of James Whytfelld, and presentation of Edward, earl of Derby. John Taylor was still rector, 3rd November, 1595, and 2nd March, 1595-6, at which dates he was rated for his parsonage of Milton to raise one petronel furnished².

Roger Goade was instituted about the year 1600. He was born at Horton in Buckinghamshire, and admitted of King's College in 1555. He was at one time master of the free-school at Guildford, and succeeded Dr Philip Baker in the provostship of his college, 19th March, 1569-70. Dr Baker

¹ Bentham and Stevenson, Vol. II. p. 26. He is wrongly called Henrison in *Athen. Cantab.*

² "A small gun used by horsemen, with everything belonging to it."

had been deprived by Elizabeth's commissioners, 'because he was a papist himself, and a harbourer of notable papists,' &c., and Roger Goade was recommended to the fellows through the interest of Archbishop Grindal to be elected in his place. Roger Goade, 'a grave, sage, and learned man,' was evidently considered a good theologian and disputant, hence we find him in 1581 employed with Dr Fulke, master of Pembroke College, to confer with Edmund Campion, the Jesuit, in the Tower. He was made in 1576 chancellor of the diocese of Wells, and chaplain to Ambrose Dudley, earl of Warwick. Dr Goade died 25th April, 1610, and was buried in the chapel of his College¹.

*Thomas Goade*², of King's College³, A.B. 1596, was instituted, 3rd September, 1610, on the presentation, according to the terms of his father's will, of his elder brother Matthew Goade, of Shelfanger, in the county of Norfolk. Fuller⁴ doubts, whether he was born at Cambridge or at Milton: the point is only so far interesting as bearing upon the fact of his father's occasional residence upon his living. Like his father Thomas Goade was a Calvinist in his religious opinions. Becoming domestic chaplain to Archbishop Abbot, one of his father's former pupils at Guildford, he was collated by him in 1618 to the rectory of Hadleigh in Suffolk. Soon after he was sent by James I. to the Synod of Dort, 'a strong proof of the high estimation entertained of his theological learning.' In 1623 he was engaged, as his father had been, in arguing with the Jesuits. There is a great deal about Thomas Goade

¹ Harwood's *Alumni Etonenses*, p. 43; Grindal's *Remains*, pp. 308, 359; Fulke's *Defence*, &c. Pref. p. xi. Park. Soc.; Pigot's *Hadleigh*, p. 166; Cole's *MSS.* Vol. xiv. pp. 96, &c.

² Thomas Goade, LL.D. nephew of Provost Collins, who in 1630 became Regius Professor of Civil Law, must have been a relative.—Bentham and Stevenson, Vol. II. pp. 10, 28; Lloyd's *Memoires*, p. 594; *Alumni Etonenses*, p. 213.

³ *Memorials of Cambridge*, Vol. I. pp. 213, 222.

⁴ *Worthies of England*, Vol. I. p. 240.

and his odd notions of ecclesiastical decoration, in Pigot's *Hadleigh*. As an Etonian he was very fond of making Latin verses, and continued the practice until his death, 8th August, 1638, at Hadleigh, 'his most important living,' where of late he had chiefly resided, and where he was buried. In his will he remembered the poor of Milton, whom he had not forgotten during his life. He wrote *Stimulus Orthodoxus sive Goadus Redivivus. A disputation partly theological, partly metaphysical, concerning the necessity and contingency of events in the world, in respect of God's eternal decree*¹.

Samuel Collins, of King's College, B.A. 1595, succeeded to the rectory of Milton on the death of Thomas Goade, his being the first appointment made by the new patrons. He was an Etonian by birth, as well as by education. Roger Goade caused him to be elected a fellow of his college 'against six eminent competitors,' and at length, 25th April, 1615, he became provost. In 1611 he had been instituted to the vicarage of Braintree. In 1617 he was appointed Regius Professor of Divinity, and a few months after was collated by Lancelot Andrews to a canonry at Ely. With his rectory of Milton he held the rectory of Fen Ditton. On account of his loyalty he was deprived in 1644 by the earl of Manchester of all his preferments, except his professorship and the rectory of this parish, both of which he was allowed to retain until his death, the latter, apparently, as a means of subsistence, the former 'out of necessity,' the finding of a successor to him being no easy matter. By connivance of his successor he also continued to receive one-half of his income as provost². In 1646, however, he was offered the bishopric of Bristol, which he declined. He continued to live at Cambridge, where he died 16th September, 1651, and was buried in the College chapel. He was famed for his wit, memory,

¹ Russell's *Memoirs of Bishop Lancelot Andrews*, pp. 146, 455; *Alumni Etonenses*, p. 198.

² Tillotson's 24th Sermon.

fluent Latinity and prodigious learning. A few controversial works remain to attest his skill as a theological disputant¹.

Benjamin Whichcote, of Emmanuel College, B.A. 1629, was born at Stoke in Shropshire. He was fellow and tutor of his college, and during his residence in Cambridge preached every Sunday afternoon in Trinity Church for several years with great reputation and success. In 1643 he obtained the rectory of North Cadbury in Somersetshire, and, in 1644, whilst residing on his living was selected by the Parliamentary Commissioners to be provost of King's College in the room of Samuel Collins, whom they had just ejected. On the death of his predecessor in the provostship, he succeeded him also four days after in the rectory of Milton. At the Restoration, though himself deprived of his provostship by particular order from the king, he contrived to retain his living, for, the new provost and fellows having presented him, he was instituted 13th November, 1660. Finding, however, that this did not give him legal possession, the right of presenting him having fallen by lapse of time to the Crown, he was again instituted, 30th December, on the presentation of the king. Benjamin Whichcote then resigned the rectory, 16th November, 1661, was a third time presented by the college, and instituted a fortnight afterwards. On ceasing to be provost he at once settled in London, being chosen in 1662 rector of S. Anne's Blackfriars²; but, on the destruction of his church in 1666, he 'retired himself to a donative he had at Milton.' There he continued about two years, when, being considered the best of the clergy and preachers of that day, he succeeded Dr Wilkins, just made bishop of Chester,

¹ Lloyd's *Memoires*, pp. 452, &c.; *Antiquarian Communications*, C. A. S. Vol. II. p. 157, and Vol. III. pp. 25, &c.; Tillotson's 24th Sermon; Russell's *Memoirs of Bishop Lancelot Andrews*, pp. 361, 447; *Alumni Etonenses*, pp. 44, 61.

² In *Alumni Etonenses*, p. 202, is a short account of William Gouge, a former minister of the same church, which is well worth a perusal.

in the vicarage of S. Lawrence Jewry, and on his death, in May, 1683, was buried in his church. Dr Tillotson, then dean of Canterbury, preached his funeral sermon, in which he mentions many things extremely creditable to him. Five volumes of his sermons were published at different times after his death¹.

*Samuel Thomas*², of Jesus College, B.A. 1667, was the successor of Benjamin Whichcote, 1st November, 1683. He was born in the parish of S. Martin, Cornwall, and died 3rd November, 1691, at Truro, where he had been preacher twenty-six years.

Charles Roderick, of King's College, B.A. 1670, 'a most pious and learned man³,' born at Bunbury in Cheshire was the next rector. He was made head-master of Eton in 1682, provost of his college in 1689, canon of Ely by the Crown in 1691, and dean of the same cathedral in 1708. Lord Townsend presented him to the rectory of Raynham in Norfolk, which living he vacated on obtaining the rectory of Milton, to which he was instituted, 12 April, 1692. Provost Roderick died, 25 March, 1712, and was buried in his chapel⁴.

Richard Stephens, of King's College, B.A. 1683-4, was instituted in succession to Provost Roderick, to the rectory of Milton, 20th September, 1712. He was the son of a physician, who resided at Truro. He voluntarily undertook the sole charge of his parish, and executed all the duties connected with it as long as he lived. Two names are associated with the parish of Milton in 1720, John Blythe of Clare College, B.A. 1701-2, and William Dunne of St Peter's College, B.A. 1708-9, but

¹ Tillotson's 24th Sermon; Birch's *Life of Dr John Tillotson*, pp. 6, 101; *Memorials of Cambridge*, Vol. I. p. 250; Burnet's *History of His Own Time*, Vol. I. p. 321, and Vol. VI. p. 241, edit. 1823; *Alumni Etonenses*, pp. 45, 229.

² *Alias* Redskinner, says Cole. Surely, this was merely a sobriquet.

³ *Alumni Etonenses*, p. 246.

⁴ Bentham and Stevenson, Vol. I. pp. 237, 243; *Alumni Etonenses*, p. 48.

we must regard them as curates to Mr Stephens, rather than as vicars. Richard Stephens died at Milton, 5th August, 1727¹.

Adam Elliott, of King's College, B.A. 1713-14, became successor to Richard Stephens, 27th January, 1727-8. He held also the vicarage by sequestration. He was an assistant-master at Eton, and died there in 1735². William Lemon, of Jesus College, B.A. 1700-1, was curate in 1728; so also was Benjamin Archer, of King's College, B.A. 1718-9, in the following year (though Cole styles him vicar under the year 1731), and John Heath, of King's College, B.A. 1722-3, in 1734 and 1738³.

Willyam Willymot, of King's College, B.A. 1697-8, was presented to the rectory of Milton in 1735 on the death of Adam Elliott. He was for many years an under-master at Eton; and subsequently an advocate in Doctors' Commons. He died, 7th June, 1737, of apoplexy at Bedford⁴.

John Lane, of King's College, B.A. 1725, followed William Willymot in the rectory of Milton. In 1744 he had held the vicarage by sequestration, like his predecessor, somewhat about a year. Previously to his removal hither he resided at Long Melford in Suffolk, as curate of the parish under Dr Okes. He held likewise the vicarage of Newport in Essex. George Towers, of King's College, B.A. 1727-8, who styles himself minister in 1742, is described as curate in 1740. "John Lane was shot by some robbers in Epping Forest in October 1746 in attempting to make resistance against them. His money was found in his boots⁵."

Oliver Naylor, of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, B.A. 1726, became rector on the death of John Lane, and also

¹ Cole MSS. Vol. xvi. p. 63. See the list of vicars, *Alumni Etonenses*, p. 266.

² *Ibid.* p. 291.

⁴ *Ibid.* p. 277.

³ *Ibid.* pp. 295, 300.

⁵ *Ibid.* pp. 302, 314.

sequestrator of the vicarage. William Barford of King's College, B.A. 1742, was his curate in 1752, and William Craven of St John's College, B.A. 1753, in 1770. He had been educated at Eton, and became eventually domestic chaplain to the earl of Carlisle, who gave him the rectory of Morpeth in Northumberland. Subsequently the rectory of Orton near Peterborough was offered to him, when his brother John Naylor¹, B.A. 1730, a fellow and bursar of King's College, and 'a managing person there,' persuaded that society to present Oliver to the sinecure rectory of Milton, on condition that the rectory of Orton should be conferred on himself. John Naylor was curate to his brother at Milton in 1746. Oliver Naylor held likewise the non-residentiary prebend of Caistor in Lincoln Cathedral. He resided for about two or three years at a time alternately at Morpeth and Milton. He died, 18th February, 1775, and was followed, 4th July, by

Graham Jepson, of King's College, B.A. 1758. The next year Graham Jepson was made vicar of Fulham on the presentation of Samuel Knight, the sinecure rector of that parish, and resigned in his favour, by permission of the college, his rectory of Milton. He was D.D. 1775.

Samuel Knight, of Trinity College, B.A. 1738-9, M.A. 1742, was inducted 8th July, 1776. He obtained a fellowship in his college, which, however, he soon resigned. Samuel Knight was domestic chaplain to Dr Sherlock, bishop of London, and also rector of Stanwick in Northamptonshire. He resided in the manor house, and died 6th January, 1790².

Edward Reynolds, of King's College, B.A. 1768, M.A. 1771, succeeded, on the death of Dr Knight, to the rectory of Milton. He died in June 1796.

¹ Nichols' *Illustrations of Literature*, Vol. i. pp. 620, 636; *Alumni Etonenses*, p. 317.

² Nichols' *Literary Anecdotes*, Vol. v. pp. 360, &c. Vol. ix. p. 610; Bentham and Stevenson, Vol. ii. p. 132.

Thomas Key, of King's College, B.A. 1778, was presented to the rectory in 1796 on the death of Edward Reynolds.

William George Freeman, of King's College, B.A. 1789, succeeded Thomas Key in 1812. He was an under master at Eton, and was accidentally killed in 1841.

John Chapman, of King's College, B.A. 1827, M.A. 1830, was instituted to the rectory of Milton in 1841. Mr Champnes having vacated the vicarage in 1846, the rectory and the vicarage, by the operation of 3 and 4 Vict. 1839, cap. 113, were then at length joined together, so that the living returned to the state in which it had originally been more than five hundred years ago, and Mr Chapman became the first of a new series of incumbents.

VICARS.

John de Borewell [Burwell] was vicar in November, 1348. We learn this fact from the records of the manor of Waterbeach cum Denney. John de Borewell Viccar of Middleton sheweth a writinge whereby he purchaseth one Tenem^t and seaventeene acres of land with th' appurtenances in Middleton of John de Littlebed (?) to hould to the said John de Borewell and his heires for ever, and thereupon doth fealtie. His name is likewise mentioned under February of the following year. An ancestor and namesake of his appears by the *Rotuli Hundredorum* to have occupied land here in 1279. John de Borewell, as well as his rector, no doubt died of the plague which was then so fatal in England, and which carried off so many of the parochial clergy, since 26th June, 1349, he was succeeded by

Robert Rayson, on the nomination of John Scot, the rector, and John Rayson¹. Had the next presentation to the vicarage been purchased? It seems very much as if this

¹ *Hist. of Landbeach*, p. 105.

were the case. The Rayson family had held land in this parish, at least, from 1279.

Roger Blase resigned the vicarage of Milton in favour of John Alvene, on 11th December, 1394, and was therefore immediately instituted to the perpetual chantry in the church of Bourne lately founded for the souls of John Massyngham and Roger Sergeant, on the presentation of Sir John de Ashwell, vicar of Bourne¹. On the 24th February, 1400-1, Roger Blase was also instituted to the vicarage of Wyntworth², having been presented thereto by the prior and convent of Ely Cathedral.

John Alvene became vicar of Milton, 11th December, 1394, by exchange with Roger Blase, who had just sent in his resignation.

John Hawforth, vicar, died in 1397. He was succeeded, 28th April, by

John Goodhyne, on the presentation of the rector, Philip Seneschal. Some mistake exists here. According to the list of rectors Philip Seneschal could not have presented any one before 1399. In 1401 John Goodhyne resigned the vicarage in favour of Richard Morys receiving in exchange Ben Valeye chantry in Corbeleye (Corley?) church in the diocese of Worcester.

Richard Morys was instituted, 23rd July, 1401, in the place of John Goodhyne. He did not long retain his preferment: in 1404 he exchanged it for the rectory of Gresham in Norfolk with

John Hawkere, who having been presented by Thomas Kirkbirde, the rector, was instituted 9th December of the same year.

¹ *Notes upon Chantries and Free Chapels*, by the Rev. E. Ventris, M.A., in *Antiquarian Communications*, C. A. S. Vol. I. p. 207.

² The great tithes of this parish had been appropriated by Bishop Northwold to the sacrist of the cathedral, but by 1446 this appropriation had been dissolved, so that the living was again a rectory.—Bentham and Stevenson, Vol. I. p. 127.

John Grene resigned the vicarage in 1446 to

*Eudo Quey*¹. He was instituted, 28th September, on the presentation of the rector, who could only have been Thomas Spake. In 4 Edw. IV. [1464] Eudo Quey was still clerke, also in 1472.

Edward Why died in 1489, and was followed by

William Haryest or *Hayhurst*, who was instituted 6th April in that year. He held the vicarage four years, and died himself in 1493, when he had for his successor

John Wade, who was instituted, 4th July, on the presentation of the rector, James Streytberell. He held the vicarage but a very few months, for

Richard Streytberell, M.A. was instituted, 16th December, 1493, on his resignation. The same rector as before, no doubt a relative, presented him.

Henry Holland, for some reason now unknown, was canonically deprived of his preferment, and, as it seems, late in the year 1516. Cole wished to make out, but without success, that the original word was intended to mean promotion, not deprivation. Was Henry Holland a protestant before the time?

Richard Alanson (Alyson), bachelor of Decrees, was presented by Richard Harreson, the rector, in succession to Henry Holland, and instituted 10th January, 1516-7. He was connected with the parish earlier, in the character of chaplain, perhaps. That hardly agrees however with the title of curate, which is given him by William Rosse's will in October 1515, though it does with "priest," which is added to his name a few months later. Henry Holland died, 28th June, 1529, and was, as we have already seen, buried in the chancel. The signature of

John Crispe, vicar, occurs among the witnesses to several wills between 1538 and 1544. He styles himself at the same time both vicar and curate.

¹ John Quey was rector of Downham in the Isle in 1379.

Thomas Hyssam signs, as vicar, 4th August, 1552, the inventory then taken of "Church Goods."

Henry Colly became vicar of Milton, 7th October, 1555, on the presentation of John Moodyer. By 1557 he must have given up his preferment, for in that year the vicarage, like the rectory, was not, it is stated, in the charge of any one. The vicarage was also vacant in 1561. Possibly, John Moodyer then did the whole duty of the parish himself.

William Kellam was instituted to the vicarage, 10th November, 1604. He kept his living some years, and was buried at Milton, 19th October, 1620. During his incumbency the copies of the entries in the parish register annually sent in to the registrar of the diocese were signed by him.

Thomas Barnham, M.A., whose name is also found appended to the above-mentioned annual returns, followed William Kellam. Dr Thomas Goade must have presented him.

Edward Johnson signs similar returns for the first time in 1631. He, as well as his predecessors, resided on his cure. At length, 7th November, 1644, when he had a wife and four children, these articles were exhibited against him to the parliamentary commissioners,—that at Christide last he was drunk amongst the Papists at Milton, and that he is often so—that he is a Practicer of innovations and ceremonies—that he liveth very unquietly with his wife, sometimes beating her—and is given to swearing and cursing. Whereupon by the Earl of Manchester's warrant, dated 7th January, 1644-5, he was ejected and sequestrated¹. Dr Thomas Goade left by his will to the vicar, (and that vicar could be none other than Edward Johnson,) "a gowne, a cassocke, a cloake, a suite of under apparrell, such as my Executor shall thinke fitt to allott him out of mine."

¹ Walker's *Sufferings of the Clergy*, Part 2, p. 279. MS. Baker XLII. fo. 248-9.

John Radcliffe, fellow of Magdalen College, M.A. 1661, B.D. 1668 signed as vicar the annual returns for 1664. He had been instituted 31st October on the presentation of Benjamin Whichcote. Permission was also granted him by the bishop to preach in his church, in accordance with the canons of 1604.

John Bilton, fellow of Magdalen College, B.A. 1663-4, M.A. 1667, appears, from his signing of the annual returns, to have been vicar in 1669 and 1671. In 1670, however,

William Crosse fellow of Sidney Sussex College, B.A. 1667-8, M.A. 1671, B.D. 1678, would seem for the same reason to have been in possession of the vicarage.

John Maulyverer fellow of Magdalen College, B.A. 1666-7, M.A. 1670, signed the returns in 1672 as vicar. In 1683 his name appears as a magistrate for this district before whom depositions were made respecting burials in woollen, thus showing, we may well conclude, that he was still vicar of Milton.

James Bernard fellow of King's College, B.A. 1673-4, M.A. 1677, was vicar when Samuel Thomas was rector; and it seems probable in succession to John Maulyverer. He was born at Sandall Kirk in Yorkshire, and ultimately became rector of Tormarton in Gloucestershire¹.

Richard Stephens, he who afterwards resided as rector, took depositions in 1686, and, surely, because he was the vicar. In 1692 his name is found subjoined to the annual returns, and then he distinctly so styles himself.

Samuel Noyes fellow of King's College, B.A. 1683-4, M.A. 1687, B.D. 1709, signs the annual returns as vicar in 1699. He was born at Reading. In 1689 he became chaplain to the duke of Bolton, and in 1692 to Lord Orkney's regiment in Flanders. Queen Anne presented him to the rectory of North Church or Berkhamstead S. Mary, where

¹ *Alumni Etonenses*, p. 259.

he wainscotted the chancel at his own expense. In 1731 Samuel Noyes was a canon of Winchester cathedral, and died 8th April, 1740¹.

William Bond fellow of Caius College, B.A. 1766, M.A. 1769, was sequestrator in 1781.

Samuel Vince, of Caius College, B.A. 1775, of Sidney, M.A. 1778, became sequestrator of the vicarage of Milton in 1789. He did not reside in the parish, but walked over from Cambridge every Sunday morning, to perform his weekly duty. Samuel Vince died in 1822, having, a few years before, vacated his parochial charge. His native county was Norfolk, and he was remarkable, as well for his very simple manners, as for his strong provincial dialect. He had been senior wrangler of his year, and on account of his high reputation for mathematics, was made in 1796 Plumian Professor of Astronomy. Samuel Vince is described in a note to the *Pursuits of Literature*², as a very learned, diligent, and useful Professor of Natural and Experimental Philosophy at Cambridge. His name is thus introduced:—

There liv'd a scholar late, of London fame,
A Doctor, and Morosophos his name :
From all the pains of study freed long since,
Far from a Newton, and not quite a Vince.

Besides his university honours, Samuel Vince was made by the bishop of Lincoln archdeacon of Bedford.

James Slade fellow of Emmanuel College, B.A. 1804, M.A. 1807, became sequestrator of the vicarage in 1813 in succession to Samuel Vince: he was about the same time rector of Teversham. The bishop of Chester collated him to a canonry in that cathedral in 1816: in 1817 he became vicar of Bolton-le-Moors, having effected an exchange of his rectory of Teversham with John Brocklebank, B.D. of Pembroke College, who was then vicar thereof: whilst

¹ *Alumni Etonenses*, p. 265.

² P. 349, edit. 1808.

in 1829 the dean and chapter of Chester presented him to the rectory of West Kirby. He published *An Explanation of the Psalms as read in the Liturgy of the Church*.

William Sharpe, of Trinity College, B.A. 1807, M.A. 1810, succeeded James Slade on his resignation, in 1817, and had for his curate Alldersley Dicken, who eventually followed him in the vicarage on his own resignation of that preferment.

Alldersey Dicken, of Sidney Sussex College, B.A. 1815, fellow of Peterhouse, M.A. 1818, D.D. 1831, became vicar in July 1821. Dr Dicken now holds the college living of Norton in Suffolk, to which he was presented in 1831. He gained the Seatonian prize poem in 1818: in 1823 he published his *Sermons preached before the University of Cambridge*, and in 1847, some *Remarks on the Marginal Notes and References of the Bible*. Littleton Charles Powys, fellow of Corpus Christi College, B.A. 1813, M.A. 1816, B.D. 1824, now rector of Stalbridge, Dorsetshire, was curate from 1823. On Dr Dicken's resignation in 1837

Charles John Champnes, of St Alban's hall, Oxford, B.A. 1834, M.A. 1841, D.C.L. 1847, succeeded to the vicarage. In 1846 Mr Champnes himself vacated his charge, and thus put an end to the double tenure of the living, which henceforth became again only a rectory. He died, aged 36, on 15 Jan. 1850, as curate of St Giles' Durham. He had also been head master of the collegiate school of Glasgow. (*Gent. Mag.* March 1850.)

ERRATA.

Page 12, for D'Egville read D'eyville.

„ 44, l. 4, read *Ecclia*.

„ 67, l. 9, read *Cannon*.

„ 77, l. 6, for *iiii^{or}*. read *iiii^{or}*

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A HISTORY
OF THE
PARISH OF HORNINGSEY.



A HISTORY
OF THE
PARISH OF HORNINGSEY
IN THE
COUNTY OF CAMBRIDGE.

BY
WILLIAM KEATINGE CLAY, B.D.
AUTHOR OF THE HISTORIES OF WATERBEECH AND LANDBEECH.



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PREFACE.

THE History of Horningsey, like the Histories of Waterbeach and Landbeach which preceded it, has been printed at the expense of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society. For the governing body of that Society naturally considered an account of the parishes surrounding Cambridge to be a proper and legitimate object, whereon to employ a portion even of their limited funds. The only thing, against which they desire to guard themselves, is the supposition of their being in any manner answerable for the accuracy, and fulness, of the statements contained in the present publication.

For such matters the author alone is, as he ought to be, responsible. Of course, he has not escaped errors; nor, on the other hand, may he have been fortunate enough to bring together all the information, which it was possible for him to obtain. Before he commenced his voluntary, and self-imposed, task, he was told by a well-known antiquarian friend, that

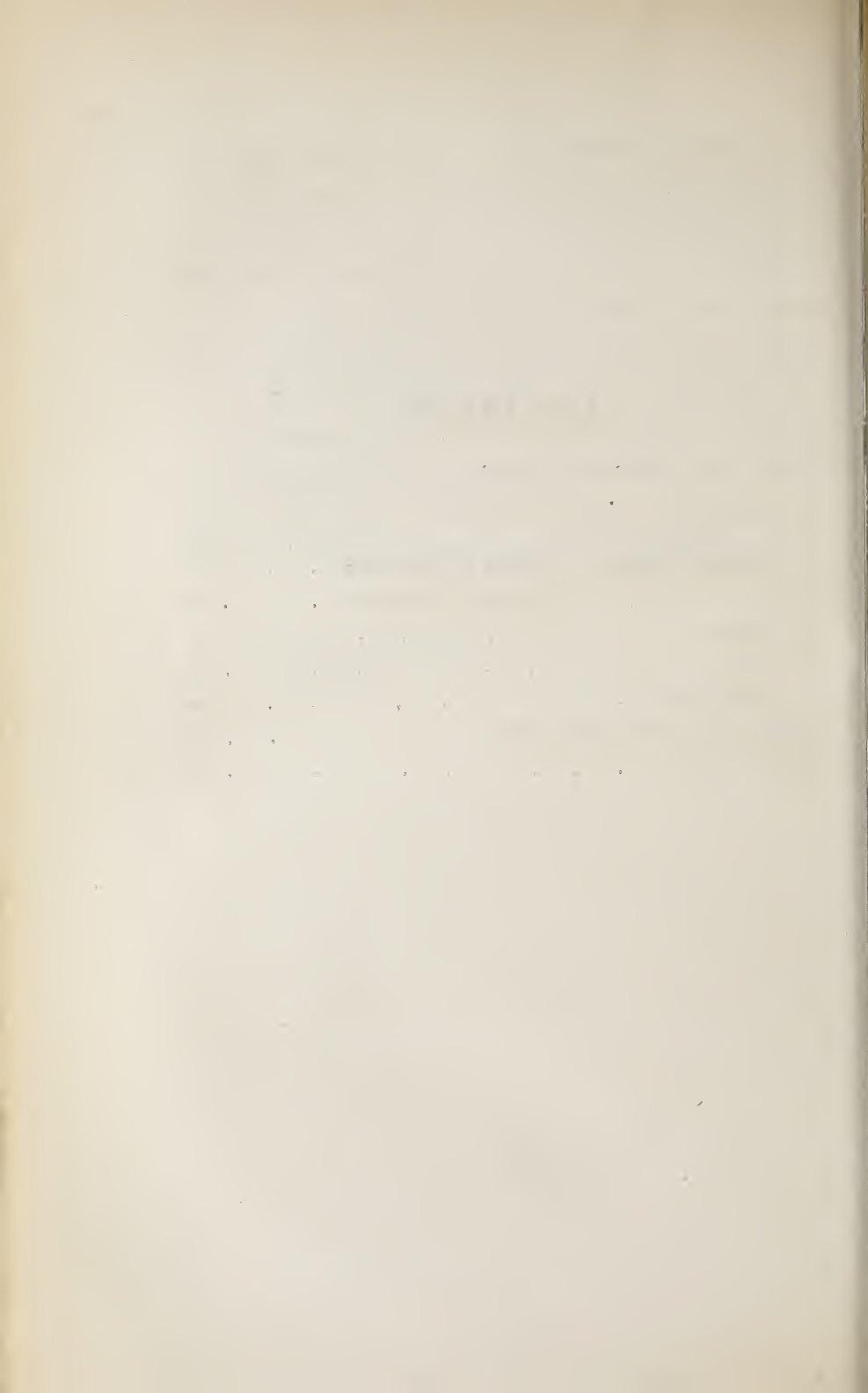
he would find but little. The remark has turned out to be too correct ; nevertheless, he has been enabled to produce a more detailed, and circumstantial, narrative, than he had once thought lay within his power.

The writer returns his best thanks to those gentlemen, who have been so kind as to assist him : namely, C. H. Cooper, Esq. F.S.A., the Rev. J. E. B. Mayor, M.A. Fellow of St John's College, and Principal Librarian to the University, H. Bradshaw, Esq., M.A. Fellow of King's College, and the Rev. Edward Ventris, M.A. of Cambridge.

THE VICARAGE, WATERBEACH,
Jan. 2, 1865.

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THIS seems a good opportunity to offer a few corrections of the two previous Histories, with some additional facts, and notes.

HISTORY OF WATERBEACH.

- P. 4. l. 6. Tillage is a corruption for Tilling.
- „ 8. „ 28. The Alan, who commanded at Hastings, was not Fergeant, but simply a Breton nobleman: he did not marry Constance, nor was he earl of Richmond: he died about 1089.
- „ 11. „ 8. The vicar of the parish now possesses that copy.
- „ 14. „ 6. Omit—called Dele Causey.
- „ 14. „ 29. Lopp is the contracted form of lordship.
- „ 22. „ 33. For *Sunday* read *Monday*.
- „ 23. „ 2. For *Sunday* read *Monday*, and omit down to *arrangement*.
- „ 38. „ 6. The ground, on which this addition to the nave was built, lay naturally a little lower.
- „ 39. „ 29. It was a portion of the rood-screen.
- „ 39. „ 34. For *daily* read *extra*.
- „ 41. „ 15. For *Pirsones* read *ate Priories*, and omit all but the last sentence of the note.
- „ 42. „ 1. For *moyers* read *queyers*, and omit the note.
- „ 43. „ 27. The cup and cover were given to the parish in 1633 by Margery Banks. See p. 78.
- „ 44. „ 32. For 1645 read 1654.
- „ 47. „ 15. This is merely the diapering of the glass.
- „ 50. „ 31. For *Upware* read *Bottisham sluice*.
- „ 55. „ 21. For *Carmelo* read *Charneles*, and omit down to *Cambridge*.
- „ 61. „ 23. For *cross* read *crucifix*.
- „ 65. „ 23. For *Queens'* read *King's*.
- „ 68. „ 15. For *Sandford* read *Sancroft*.

- P. 73. l. 14. For *Attorney-general* read *King's Remembrancer in the Exchequer*
 „ 84. „ 30. Now called *High Elmer*.
 „ 88. „ 11. Omit *Grand*.
 „ 92. „ 10. For *Edward* read *Edmund*.
 „ 95. „ 33. For *Robert Winchelsey* read *William de Gaynesburgh*.
 „ 106. „ 5. A much earlier, and perfect, impression of the same seal has very recently been found in the treasury of King's College.
 „ 109. „ 14. Omit—the sum at present paid.
 „ 118. „ 17. For 1516 read 1512.
 „ 121. „ 24. For *Hornsey* read *Howes*.
 „ 132. „ 31. For *left* read *gave*.

VISITATIO REVERENDI IN CHRISTO PATRIS ET DOMINI DOMINI
 LANCELOTI PERMISSIONE DIVINA ELIEN. EPIS., &c. A.D. 1610 (MEN-
 SIBUS MAII & JUNII).

Waterbeach.

Mr. Thomas Payne, Vic. Non co[m]paruit: excusatus.

Mr. Thomas Kidman¹, Cur. Co.

Robertus Cowper, Ludimagister. Decessit.

Firmar' Rectorie, Mr. Yaxley.

Johannes Robson	} Gard[iani]	} Co. Jur.
Willelmus Clement		
Willelmus Pecke		
Johannes Barnarde	Inquisitores.	

John Hodson, and Henry Bednham, were presented, as being excommunicate; and William Creak, William Kiddye, Edward Benne, and Robert Carowe, 'for drinkinge extraordinarilye.' (The drunkards paid a penalty of 3^d, and were dismissed.)

A.D. 1613.

Mr. Robertus Kidson, Vic. Non co.: excusatus.

Mr. Edwardus Tiler², Cur. et predicator. Co.

Firmar' Rectorie, Mr. Johannes Yaxley.

Willelmus Fyson	} Gard.	} Co. omnes, et jur.
Jacobus Laurence		
Thomas Gardiner		
Philippus Huddinge	Inquis ³ .	

¹ His name does not occur among the graduates of the University of Cambridge, or Oxford.

² Of St Peter's College, M.A. 1613.

A.D. 1616.

Mr. Jacobus Wedderburne, Vicar. Non co.
 Firmar' Rectorie Mr. Johannes Yaxley. Non co.
 Christoferus Wade } Gard. }
 Edmundus Bunker } } Co. omnes, et jur'.
 Andreas Linton } Inquis'. }
 Radulphus Dowse }

PAROCHIAL VISITATION, 1665.

Waterbeach.

Tho. Carter } Gard.
 Tho. Hall }

1. The cover of the Font to be made better.
 2. The deske to [be] fringed upon greene cloth.
 3. A new booke of Homilies to be provided, & Jewell's Apologie.
 4. To provide a locke & keye for the chest¹.
 5. The whole Church out of repayre. Moniti ad providendum cetera citra festum Purificacionis prox. seq., & certificare in prox. seq. [die juridico].
 6. The Pavement to be levied similiter [made uniformly level].
- 21^o. April predicto non co.: Die Sab. 2^{do} Junii—66—co^t. Carter, et allegavit, that they have bricke a burning for the repaire of the Church, unde habent ad certificandum plenius in prox. post festum Sti. Michaelis.

PAROCHIAL VISITATION, 1678.

Tho. Hall }
 Rich. Dowse } Co^t. Hall et Dowse.

A new Cover for y^e fonte.The pavem^t in y^e middle Ally to bee paved.A common prayer booke with y^e last edition for y^e Clerke.Napkinne² for y^e Communion.The seats at y^e east end of y^e chancell³ to bee removed.

A table of degreese wanting to be provided.

A booke of homilies and Cannons.

Dominus monuit eos certificare de factione omnium in prox. diem Sabb' post festum Sti. Michaelis.

¹ This chest was removed out of the vestry in 1855, being no longer in a fit state to be used.

² This must be the 'fair linen cloth' of the LXXXII. Canon.

³ The sedilia? Or did a low bench of clunch, like that in the north aisle of Horningsey church, run along the east end of the chancel? See p. 40.

VISITATION, 1685.

The Church to bee whited, y^e fonte to bee made cleane, and kept soe.
 The seats to bee boarded where wanting.
 To provide 3 locks for y^e cheste, And to keepe y^e Register there.
 To provide a new Common prayer booke for y^e clerke¹, and a table of
 Degreese.
 To give notice to y^e Tennant of y^e Parsonage to, pointe, Tile, and
 white, y^e Chancell.

HISTORY OF LANDBEACH.

- P. 3. l. 20. King's—William the Conqueror's ?
 „ 5. „ 31. Braham is corrupted from Brame.
 „ 8. „ 22. See *Hist. of Horningsey*, p. 7, n. 2.
 „ 9. „ 33. For *long*, read *since* 1315.
 „ 12. „ 9. For an account of these figures see *Archæological Journal*,
 vol. xiv., pp. 144, &c.
 „ 25. „ 6. Kirby's arms were sable, a lion rampant, or.
 „ 25. „ 17. Edward Steward died in 1593, and was buried at Teversham.
 „ 37. „ 17. The cross stood, and within the last twenty years, at the
 south-west corner of the road leading into Landbeach
 from Waterbeach.
 „ 38. „ 6. Coton has still a house, 'a mere hovel,' the property of the
 parish, called the Town-Hall, but used as a shoemaker's
 workshop.
 „ 45. „ 35. Omit—and so on, &c. Lode ditch must be the ditch, which
 serves for a boundary between Landbeach and Cottenham.
 „ 47. „ 28. John de Ferles was connected also with Coton.
 „ 62. „ 15. Both the arcades are parts of Sir Thomas le Chamber-
 layne's church. What was done with the body of it
 towards the end of the fifteenth century, was, to raise the
 walls on each side, so as to admit of clear-story windows
 being inserted, to put on a new roof, to add a parapet, and
 almost to rebuild the aisles.

¹ The words 'for y^e clerke' are erased in the original.

- P. 67. l. 9. It has been suggested, that the previous church, like many others, was destroyed by fire.
- „ 72. „ 9. Some of the wood-work appears to have found its way to the east end of the chancel of Histon church.
- „ 72. „ 20. There was formerly a popular belief, that the man, who carried the cross for our Saviour, was by trade a farrier? Will this explain the matter?
- „ 73. „ 16. In Impington church is an image of our Lady of Pity, or a small effigy of the Virgin, with the body of Christ lying across her knees.
- „ 75. „ 36. Queen Mary was disguised as a milkmaid with a pail on her arm.
- „ 81. „ 4. Clifford acted in obedience to an order of Convocation made in 1597. See Cardwell's *Synodalia*, vol. i. p. 160.
- „ 91. „ 21. This chimney-piece caught fire, and was entirely consumed, in 1863.
- „ 101. „ 9. Hen. III. recommended Henry de Wengham to the monastery of Ely, in 1257, to be elected their bishop, but the monks chose Hugh de Balsham.
- „ 105. „ 20. See Cole's *MSS.* vol. viii. fol. 40 b.

VISITATION OF LANCELOT, BISHOP OF ELY, 1610.

Landbeache.

Mr Henricus Clifford, Rector. Co.
 Mr Richardus Pernam¹, Cur' et predicator. Co.
 Johannes Gotobed, Ludimagister. Non co.: egr[otat].

Henricus Leache	} Gard'.	} Co. Jur'.
Robertus Tayler		
Johannes Rabye	} Inquis ^s .	
Willelmus Richards		

Omnia bene.

Landbeache.

1613.

Mr Henricus Clifford, Rector. Co.
 Mr Richardus Pernam, Cur' et Predicator. Non co.

Johannes Thurlowe	} Gard'.	} Co. omnes, et jur'.
Thomas Foote		
Johannes Fyson	} Inquis ^s .	
Willelmus Jackson		

¹ A fellow of Corpus Christi College, B.D. 1614.

Landbeach.

1616.

Mr Henricus Clifford, Rector. Non. co.: excus^o.
 Mr [name omitted] Clifford, Fil'. Predicator. Co.
 Johannes Gotobed, Ludimagister. Non co.
 Richardus Annys } Gard'.
 Willelmus Richards }
 Co. et jur. per M^{rm} Scar- } Johannes Goodman. Non co. } Inquis^s. } co. 3.
 lett 27 Maii, 1616¹. } Willelmus Custerson } et jur'.

PAROCHIAL VISITATION, 1665.

Landbeach.

Will. Tayler }
 Edmund Annis } Gard'.

The Font to have the Cover made better and decenter ×
 A table of degrees wanting to be provided ×
 The pew or Reading desk to be fringed upon greene cloth.
 A booke of Cannons wanting. Citra festum Michaelis, et certificare in
 [diem] Sab. prox.
 The bellferie wants plastering × and the Church wants whiting.
 The Church windows out of repayre, and the Chancell on the south
 side ×
 The vestry out of repaire ×
 The east end of the North Iland² of the church out of repaire.
 Omnia reparantur in festum Paschæ prox., et certificare in diem
 Sab. prox.
 10^{mo} 9^{bris}—66 co^t. Annis, & cer^{vit} notata³. Non sol[vit].

1678.

Rob. Taylor }
 Tho. Young } Co^t. Taylor.

1. The Windows to bee glazed.
2. A new cover for y^e fonte and a plugg
3. A new beare, or 2 boards for y^e repayreing of it
4. The Commandem^{ts} to bee renewed, and the Church to bee whited
 where it nedeth, and the Inscriptions to bee repayed
5. The Lead worke on y^e south side to bee mended

¹ This only refers to John Goodman.

² The words iland, that is, island (isle), aisle, and alley, are all three used to denote the same part of a church, though not with equal propriety, nor without a real difference in their meaning and application.

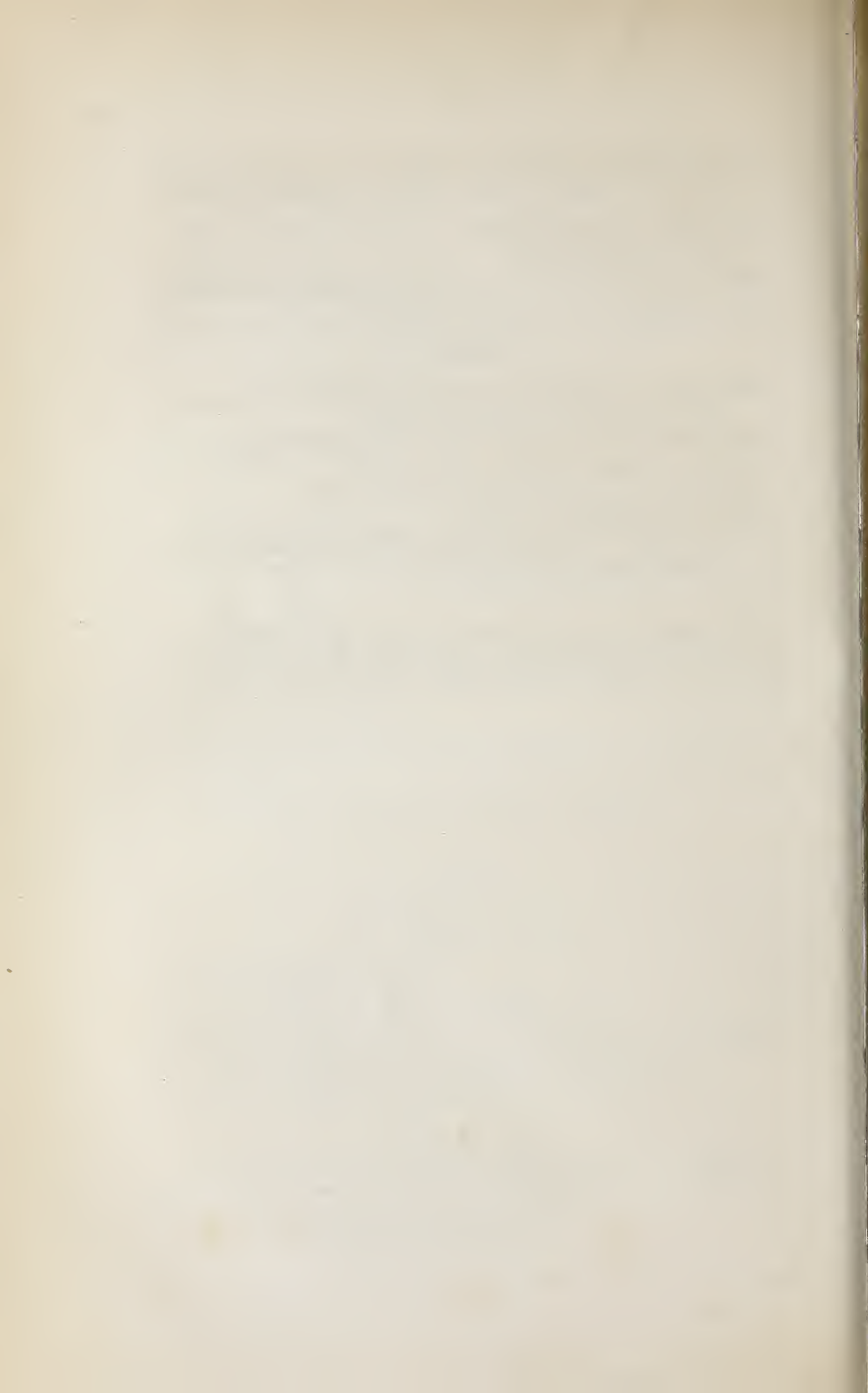
³ The items against which a cross is placed.

6. The floeing of y^e seats in the Chancell to bee mended
 7. The Schoolehouse on y^e North side of y^e chancell¹ to be made cleane
 8. A Table of degreese wanting.
A new Communion Table.
- Et D^s. monuit eos certificare in prox. diem Juridicum post festum Sti Michaelis.

1685.

That parte of y^e church, where y^e schoole is kept, to bee repaired,
and y^e church to be plaistred and whited
The glazeing to bee mended as allsoe y^e boarding of y^e seats
To provide a plugg for y^e fonte
To provide a New Comon prayer booke for y^e clarke
To cleare y^e churchyard of weeds
To give Notice to the Parson to white y^e chancell, and glaze it, and to
boord y^e seats, where it is wanting.

¹ The school-house was clearly, as at Waterbeach, an old chapel. All remarks made in the *History* about it must, therefore, be corrected, so as to accord with this direction, and with what immediately follows. See pp. 43, n. 1, 62, 92, 95, n. 7.



HISTORY OF HORNINGSEY.

THE PARISH.

THE name of that parish in the county of Cambridge, of which an account is now going to be given, is commonly pronounced Hornsey, though it is spelt both Horningsey and Horningsea. The latter mode of spelling the name is, however, an error, as being contrary to its derivation and meaning.

The word Horningsey signifies *the island of the descendants, or followers, of Horn*, and is composed of Horningas, an Anglo-Saxon genitive plural, and ey¹. A few observations are necessary to be made upon each of these constituent parts.

And, first, with respect to the word Horningas. When the Angles and Saxons invaded Britain, they brought with them very naturally many of the customs of their native country, and among those customs that of forming what was styled a mark or march, a word with which in its plural form we have always been well acquainted, since it was once no unusual thing to talk and write about the marches (marks²) of Wales, and of

¹ The above derivation is given on the authority of the late Mr Kemble. It is right to add that of another eminent Anglo-Saxon scholar, though it has not been adopted.—Horningsey is Hornings-ey, *i. e.* *Horning's island*. Horning means *Son of Horn*. Horn and Horning both appear to have been frequent names in early times, founded perhaps on a mythological fancy, as Horn was an appellation of the goddess Freya.

² By some persons these two words are not considered identical, and differing only in their spelling; rather, the first is thought to denote the boundary land, the second, the cleared land, or its inhabitants.

Scotland. The term mark originally denoted a *forest*, and is said by Kemble to have been intimately connected with two words in the old Norse language, of which one stood for a *wood*, the other for a *boundary*. Consequently, a mark was, in the first instance, that which itself served for a boundary to some inhabited and cultivated tract of land. In the next place, it signified a piece of land surrounded by a forest, &c. (according to the nature of the district,) as a boundary, and thus kept separate and distinct from other neighbouring marks, or inhabited grounds, somewhat after the manner of a clearing in the back woods of America at the present day. The same word was also used to express the corporate body of free men, who had made the clearing, and who had settled thereon 'in greater or lesser numbers, for purposes of cultivation, and for the sake of mutual profit and protection.' The cleared land was divided into arable and pasture, and held in common by the whole community of families or households, no one of them having any fixed property in the soil, or in its produce. On the other hand the boundary land, or, as we may call it, the mark proper, 'remained in heath, forest, fen, or pasture,' where every species of quadruped was allowed to graze and feed for the individual advantage of its owner, who had the same kind of right in that boundary land, as was enjoyed by the commoners of recent times in their commons before the inclosure of the parishes.

Each mark was possessed and occupied solely by its own family union. Moreover, the households, of which that union consisted, were the descendants from the same ancestor, or the followers of the same leader, or a mixed multitude of both, together with such individuals as had been incorporated into their society by marriage, adoption, or even emancipation. These, having all kept together on their coming into Britain, had either chosen for themselves, or, what bears a greater appearance of probability, had been duly allotted by their chiefs, a certain portion of the newly conquered country. The Horn-

ingas, one of such family unions, or tribes, were connected, though we are unable to affirm in what precise manner, with some Saxon of importance in his day, called Horn¹; and their relationship to him, and to each other, was indicated by the patronymical termination ing, the suffix as expressing the Anglo-Saxon nominative, as well as genitive, plural.

It is not in the parish of Horningsey alone, and in the county of Cambridge, that we recognize the presence of the Horningas. The same name is found in several other counties of England, of which three are distant counties, and the fact can be easily explained by bearing in mind, that the boundary of the original mark, wherever it may have been situated, would in the course of time necessarily become too confined for its inhabitants; that migration would therefore take place, and the superabundant population establish themselves elsewhere. Whether the Horningas, after their arrival in Britain, placed themselves down first on the island in the neighbourhood of the river Cam², whence the name Horningsey is partly derived, is a point quite beyond our means of determining. That river (which bounded, no doubt, one side of their new abode) would be of essential service to them, if they did so, just as it would equally assist them on the departure, supposing such departure ever to have taken place, of any portion of their community³.

A few other places in Cambridgeshire were colonized under exactly the same circumstances as the island, on which the Horningas settled, or Horningsey; and among them, pro-

¹ King Horn, or Horn Childe, is the subject of an ancient metrical romance both in French and English. See a quarto volume printed in 1845 at Paris for the Bannatyne Society. It is not meant, however, that any connexion existed between him and the above-named leader.

² The modern name of the river has been used in this work. The former and right name of it was Graunt from Grantchester to Haveringmere, or Harrimere, in the parish of Stretham, a morass near its ancient point of confluence with the Ouse, but which is now scarcely heard of. The word Cam signifies *crooked* or *meandering*.

³ Kemble's *Saxons in England*, Vol. I. chap. 2, and pp. 90, 467.

bably, a tract of land in the northern part of the parish of Waterbeach, called Chittering.

Secondly, the word ey denotes an *island*¹, that is, land cut off from the neighbouring land, either by positive streams of water, or by marshy ground. One of the two hamlets anciently belonging to the parish of Horningsey, as we learn from the *Rotuli Hundredorum*, was designated Eye, and in this hamlet was a manor, styled sometimes by corruption High Hall, but more properly Eye-hall², as the name used originally to be written. The manor we may conceive to have been co-extensive with the hamlet, and the hamlet by its very name must have consisted in reality of the island, which the Horningas took possession of on their coming into these parts. The island would appear to have soon ceased to exist as such. Therefore, though Horningeseie is in *Domesday Book* said to possess a mill, and from the date it could only have been a watermill, it may have been across some small stream quite independent of any, which originally bounded the island or ey. Over the river Cam, the sole alternative, it could not have stood, since that was not only wanted without impediment for the purposes of the navigation, but, if not in itself too broad, was often inconveniently swollen with floods. Besides, there may have been, as the *Inquisitio Eliensis* printed in the third volume evidently asserts there were, two watermills at Horningsey, and these, if so placed, would also have interfered necessarily with each other. The island, the seat of the Horningas, neither did, nor could at any time, represent the parish of Horningsey³. It constituted merely one of the two divisions of the parish; the other, which was more than twice its size, so soon as the whole came to be considered in a parochial point of view, (as it did, at

¹ A forma ovi undique præcisa. The small islands in the Thames are still termed Eyots or Eyts.

² At Eye in Suffolk (and it is not the only English town, which has been so styled from its insular position,) is likewise a manor named Eye-hall.

³ See p. 24, n. 2.

least, by the year 700,) being made up of the mark, properly so called, or that skirt land, which once bounded in some measure the island, and preserved it thus far from the invasion, no less than from the encroachments, of the neighbour and the stranger.

The parish of Horningsey¹ very soon became well known, a circumstance to which the monasterium regiæ dignitatis then existing there must have materially contributed. We frequently read of it in the *Liber Eliensis* as occupying, at all events in the ninth and tenth centuries, a conspicuous position among the inhabited districts of Cambridgeshire. From the nature and dignity of its religious establishment, to omit all other and lower considerations, it is not surprising, that we find the first abbot of Ely, Brihtnothus, residing occasionally at Horningsey in the tenth century, and, most likely, at the monastery, or conventual church. During one visit which is expressly mentioned, he came to an arrangement, on behalf of his own monastery, respecting the purchase of some land at Chippenham; and it is worth while quoting from the above-named book the observations indignantly made by the monkish chronicler of Ely in regard to the price given for it:—O nefas secli, O ambitio mundi, quæ nunquam cessat ecclesiasticis rebus inhiare, inhiando dilacerare, et dilacerando minuere. Videte quam iniquum commercium: abbas dedit mulieri huic ix libras, et non habet pro his nisi unam hydram et xxiiii acras arabiles de terra, quæ absque calumpnia sit, et vi prædia cum dimidio nuda et vastata². Constitit igitur illa hydra e solidis, et xxiiii acrae xx solidis, et vi prædia et dimidium constiterunt lx solidis, quæ nemo qui sapit appretiaret plusquam xx solidos³ [solidis?].

The soil of Horningsey was well approved of in early days for its fruitfulness. With the consent of King Canute, Abbot

¹ Some part of the city of Ely would seem in 1420 to have been known by the name of Hornyngsey. Bentham and Stevenson's *Hist. and Antiq. of the Cathedral Church of Ely*, Vol. II. p. 67, note.

² By the Danes, of course.

³ Lib. II. cap. 11.

Leofsinus, about 1030, so let out certain estates of his monastery at Ely, as to provide among them its yearly supplies of food. Those estates were selected, quæ abundantiore dulcedine, et uberiore cespite, segetes creare noscuntur, and the tenant of the land at Horningsey had to furnish sufficient for two weeks¹, or double what was required from most of the others.

Extracts from *Domesday Book*². The first of them, however, (which is that taken out of the third volume,) differs in several respects from the second and later one. Ellis says, in his preface to the volume:—This is supposed to contain an exact transcript of the original rolls or returns made by the Conqueror's commissioners at the time of forming the General Survey, from which the Great Domesday Book itself was compiled.

Horningeseie. The abbot himself [Symon] possesses [it], which, in the time of King Edward [the Confessor], claimed to contain vii hides³, and now [it makes the same claim]: xvii carucates and a half is the arable land there: viii carucates and a half, and iii hides and a half [are] in demesne: ix carucates for the men⁴, xxii villeins, xiiii bordarers with⁵ their plots of garden ground⁶: xv serfs, and i mill of x shillings, and i mill of x shillings and M eels. There is meadow land for all the inhabitants of the village [villa]: vi unemployed [ociosa]⁷ cattle: clx sheep: c hogs⁸, and i sorry horse [run-

¹ *Ibid.* capp. 74, 84; Bentham and Stevenson, Vol. i. pp. 92, &c.

² Vol. i. fol. 191 a; Vol. iii. p. 499.

³ The hide only comprised arable land. If in Horningsey it was estimated roughly at 240 acres, as was apparently the case, the carucate was no more than 24 acres. See p. 26.

⁴ The villeins and bordarers are these men, or feudatory tenants.

⁵ De is clearly an error for *cum*.

⁶ Similar plots were afterwards known by several names. See p. 13, n. 1.

⁷ Not used in agriculture. Probably, cows, mules, &c.

⁸ As the number of sheep indicates the extent of pasture, so may that of the hogs show the size of the woods, which furnished them with mast or acorns.

cinus]¹. In their whole values they are worth xviii pounds; when the property was received [from William I.] xiiii pounds; in the time of King Edward xiiii pounds. This manor always lay in [the domain of] the church of Ely.

Horningesie claims to contain vii hides. The arable land is xvii carucates. In demesne [are] iii hides and a half; and viii carucates and a half [are] there: xxii villeins² [are] there; and xiiii bordarers³ with ix carucates: xv serfs⁴ [are] there; and i mill⁵ of x shillings and M eels. The meadow land is a carucate. In their whole values they are worth xviii pounds; when the property was received xiiii pounds, and just as much in the time of King Edward⁶. This land always⁷ lay, and lies, in the domain of the church of Ely.

The following persons are mentioned in very early times as possessing property in Horningsey.

Nigellus episcopus [Eliensis—1133-1169] dat et concedit in perpetuam eleemosynam domui infirmorum monachorum in

¹ Roncin was *un mauvais cheval*, as rouncy, a common hack. Don Quixote's Rosinante was so called from ronzin in Spanish. Miss Younge's *Hist. of Christian Names*, Vol. II. p. 279. The 'one horse, a sorry jade,' belonging to the monastery at Bec in 1053, is described as, on being used, soon becoming *tripes equus*, *quarto pede inutili*. Hook's *Lives of the Archbishops of Canterbury*, Vol. II. p. 93.

² These villeins, the future copyholders, were incapable of being removed from the manor; they could acquire property, and make wills. Babington's *Hulsean Essay* for 1845, pp. 134, &c.

³ Bord was the Anglo-Saxon word for a *cottage*. The bordarers occupied perhaps a less servile condition than the pure villeins, or servi.

⁴ The servi, or serfs, of both these extracts were the villeins in gross, or pure villeins—saleable commodities.

⁵ This mill, which must have belonged to the monastery at Ely, was a watermill, since windmills came to us from the Saracens through the Crusaders, and the earliest authentic notice of them in England places their introduction about 1180.

⁶ Scilicet, qua die ipse rex mortuus est. The reign of Harold was never recognised by the law. William I. considered himself the adopted son, and constituted heir, of the Confessor.

⁷ The word 'always' here, as in the previous extract, must be modified by what will be stated on p. 25.

Ely¹, ad eorum sustentacionem, servicium terræ Huberti de Dittona, quam ipse tenet in Horningesey et Dittona, viz. dimidiam marcæ argenti singulis annis eidem domui reddendam ab ipso Huberto et omnibus successoribus suis ad quatuor anni terminos².

1 Johan [1199] Gilbert de Stangno (Stagno) entered a cause against Geoffry, the son of Richard, in the king's bench, on account of a virgate of land with its appurtenances in Horsee (Hornsey), which he claimed from him. Gilbert's family would seem to have lived in that village at least from the time of Hen. I.³

35 Hen. III. [1250] the bishop of Ely (Hugh Northwold) had a charter of Free Warren granted him by the king in Horningsey⁴.

In Hilary term 3 Edw. I. [1275] a claim was made in the king's bench by Ralph Muschet against William Muschet for ciiij^{xx} [180] acres of [arable] land, and x acres of meadow in Ditton and Horningsey⁵. Muschet is a Scotch name, and signifies, it is said, de monte fixo. The family had been settled in these parts for some years, since we read of a Henry Muschet, who had property in Ely early in the thirteenth century; also, of one of its members having been high sheriff of the counties of Huntingdon and Cambridge 2 Rich. I. [1190], as others were occasionally until 11 Edw. III [1337]⁶. A manor in Fen Ditton is still called Muschet's.

From the *Taxatio Ecclesiastica*⁷ we learn, that the property belonging to the prior of Ely at Horningsey was put at 6^d. So

¹ The remains of this Infirmary (which is often wrongly styled the Conventual Church) are even now much admired for the beauty of their architecture.

² Cole's *MSS.* Vol. XLVI. p. 30.

³ Palgrave's *Rot. Cur. Regis*, Vol. II. pp. 4, 227.

⁴ *Calend. Rot. Chartarum*, p. 69.

⁵ *Collect. Topog. et Genealog.* Vol. I. p. 274.

⁶ Bentham and Stevenson, Vol. I. p. 147; Fuller's *Worthies of England*, Vol. I. pp. 247, 248.

⁷ P. 271.

elsewhere the property of the Eleemosinarius, or almoner, at Ely¹ was under the same year, 1291, as Cole informs us, set at the like sum. Both these valuations must refer to one thing, and are to be explained by the following quotation, which comes equally from Cole :—*Concessio annui redditus vjd de messuagio in villa de Horningeseia ad ipsam Eleemosinam*, 1259.

23 Edw. I. [1295] a Post Mortem Enquiry was made into the property, which Baron Johannes de Luvetott (or Luve-toft) senior died possessed of. He was lord of Worksop, in Nottinghamshire, and was found to have then had Horninges-heyte extenta². Whatever the word extenta may signify, it can hardly bear in this place the general meaning, which Du Cange in his *Glossarium Latinitatis* assigns to it, *æstimatio* or *valuation*. A Sir John Loveton or Lovetot, justice of the lower bench, was found guilty of open venality and corruption early in the reign of Edw. I., and fined six thousand marks³. Could he be that John de Luvetott, *junior*, to whom a reference has clearly just been made by the word senior?

5 Edw. III. [1331] Sir Thomas Peche was by a similar Enquiry declared to be the owner of lands and tenements in Horningsey⁴.

5 Rich. II. [1381] another Post Mortem Enquiry showed, that Edmund Mortimer (*de mortuo mari*), earl of March and Ulster, and Philippa his wife, drew an annual income of xiiij^{li} iij^s ix^d from Horningsey and some neighbouring parishes⁵.

Our information about Horningsey is so scanty, that, though it may be suspected, it is difficult to determine, whether there ever really was in the parish any other manor than the manor

¹ Bentham and Stevenson, Vol. i. p. 128.

² Nicholas' *Historic Peerage*, p. 305; *Calend. Inquisit. Post Mortem*, Vol. i. p. 124.

³ Bentham and Stevenson, Vol. ii. *Notes*, p. 81.

⁴ *Calend. Inquisit. Post Mortem*, Vol. ii. p. 42.

⁵ *Ibid.* Vol. iii. p. 38; Nicholas' *Historic Peerage*, p. 312.

of Eye-hall¹. This manor, however, we know existed, and we are well acquainted with it almost throughout its whole history. How it became the property of the monastery at Ely in the tenth century will be related hereafter on the authority of the *Liber Eliensis*, while *Domesday Book* has already informed us, that it continued to belong to that establishment in 1086. Subsequently it fell into lay hands, but we learn not, either the exact time of the change, or any of the circumstances under which it took place. Indeed, except an intimation from Thomas, the monk of Ely, given on p. 28, that the manor of Eye-hall had passed to others before 1150, the time at which he wrote, we do not discover any notice concerning it for two centuries, and then it was in the possession of the Peche, or De Peche, family, a family who held the manor of Landbeach, and of whom a brief account has been given in the *History* of that parish.

The following extract from the *Rotuli Hundredorum*² bears upon this subject, and has already been alluded to. It is somewhat long, but cannot be called tedious or uninteresting, because it gives us, in connexion with the year 1279, a curious description of the tenure of land in Horningsey, as well as the names of many of its inhabitants.

HORNIGGESHEYE³.

THE brethren of the Hospital of St John at Cambridge⁴, hold in the village⁵ [villa] of Horniggesheye xlvijj acres of

¹ It was not unusual to add the mansion of the manor to the name of that manor.

² Tom. II. pp. 442, 443.

³ The *Liber Eliensis* also has the word occasionally so spelt, g being put for n.

⁴ For the history of these Brethren see Baker's *Account of St John's House and St John's College*, edit. Mayor.

⁵ Sometimes villa can only mean *parish*.

arable land of the fee of the church, for which they do not do any service.

Robert Pernel holds of the brethren of the Hospital of St John at Cambridge one messuage by the service of xij^d only.

Also, Geoffry de Stitstede¹ holds of the aforesaid one messuage by the service of xxij^d only.

Geoffry Hurney holds of the aforesaid one messuage by the service of viij^d, and he is bound to hoe [the corn]² for three days, and he shall give three hens and j cock. Also, William Sprenget holds of the aforesaid one messuage by the service of viij^d, and he will do in all things as the aforesaid Geoffry.

Ralph Hurney holds of the aforesaid one messuage by the service of xij^d only.

John Chercheman holds of the aforesaid one messuage, and one acre and a half, by the service of iiij^s, and iij capons.

Henry Maninge holds one cottage by the service of vj^d, and j cock.

Eustace Dec holds of the aforesaid one cottage by the service of vj^d, and j cock.

Alan Dec holds of the aforesaid one cottage, and one acre of arable land, by the service of xij^d, j cock and j hen, and he is bound to hoe [the corn] for iij days.

Edmund Peche³, and Margaret his wife, hold of the bishop of Ely in the hamlet of Eye one half knight's fee by homage, and scutage⁴, when it shall occur, and, besides, vj bushels of wheat a year according to the best price at Ely [per encera (encheramentum) de Ely⁵.]

Hugh le Rus holds in Ditton and Horniggesheye lx acres of arable land, and does homage to the bishop, and service of

¹ Stisted in Essex must be meant.

² Sarclare, sarcleare, sarclare. Sarclare herbular in æstate.

³ Cole gives his pedigree, *MSS.* Vol. xi. foll. 203 b, &c.

⁴ Hallam's *Middle Ages*, Vol. i. p. 310, edit. 1834.

⁵ A fair average price for a bushel of wheat about this time was from three to five pence.

vj^s viij^d a year; and to William Muschet¹ v^s a year, and scutage, when it shall occur, but they² know not how much; nor are they able to determine, how much land he holds of the bishop, nor how much of William.

The bishop of Ely has in the village of Horniggesheye xvij villeins, each of whom holds half a virgate of arable land by the service of ij^s, and each of them is bound to give j day's work in the week, on Monday, from the feast of St Michael to the feast of St Peter ad Vincula [August 1]³, and from the feast of St Peter ad Vincula, every week, to the feast of St Michael three days' work; and four of them shall plough with one plough, in each week, for j day from the feast of St Michael to the feast of St Peter ad Vincula, and each of them is bound to find ij men for two services on request [precarias]⁴ in autumn, if it shall be necessary.

Also, the bishop has viij cottagers, each of whom ought to mow in autumn for ix days, namely, on Monday in the week, half an acre, unless [the grass] is in blossom⁵ on the Monday, then they shall not mow; and each of them pays xij^d a year; and they are bound to go on the water, and carry letters from place to place, when it is necessary; and they are bound, during the whole of autumn, to stack [the corn] in the bishop's farm-yard; and each of them is bound to find j man to mow the meadow grass, to toss and prepare it, and to carry and stack it.

Also, he has three cottagers, and they do in all things like the aforesaid viij, except that they are not bound to go on the water, nor carry letters.

¹ He held land of the bishop of Ely in Ditton and elsewhere. *Rot. Hundred.* Tom. II. p. 430.

² The juratores. *Ibid.* p. 356.

³ That is, to the beginning of harvest work.

⁴ Services in mowing and reaping, &c.

⁵ Gemnaverit could hardly be translated differently, whether it be a contraction for germinaverit, or an error for gemnaverit. However, the reason for this arrangement is far from clear.

Also, he has vij other cottagers, each of whom holds one curtilage¹ by the service of ij^d, and is bound to mow half an acre.

Roger Piscator holds of the said bishop one messuage by the service of xvij^d, and he is bound to find one man for services on request.

The same Roger holds of William Muschet one messuage, and three acres of arable land, by the service of v^s in lieu of all services except scutage.

Robert Matfrey holds of William Muschet one messuage with a croft adjoining by the service of xij^d, which messuage Warren Matfrey holds of the aforesaid Robert by the aforesaid service.

Walter Lillebon holds of the bishop one messuage by the service of ij^s.

The same Walter holds of Edmund Peche two acres of arable land by the service of half a pound of pepper², and j pound of cummin [cymini].

Agnes, daughter of Robert Segym, holds of the aforesaid Edmund Peche xij acres by the service of iij^s, and scutage, when it shall occur; of which arable land Walter Lillebon holds of the aforesaid Isabella³ one acre at iijj^d.

Also the said Agnes holds one messuage of the brothers of the Hospital of St John by the service of xij^d.

¹ Hortus rusticus, ubi leguntur herbæ vel olera. It was adjacent to the house. Curtilagia gardinorum. The following information comes from the Court Rolls of the manor of Waterbeach cum Denney: 20 Edw. III. [1346] Hugh Hickden desires to be admitted for life to a cottage and curtilage [toft and croft]. The term croft seems to have afterwards taken the place of curtilage, and to have had the same meaning. 'One messuage with a croft adjoining,' is an expression of constant occurrence. Sometimes a croft contained only half a rood; sometimes, on the contrary, as many as twenty acres. In later times, 'one messuage with a garden' (garth), or close, as in *Domesday Book*, was the regular form. The croft was often termed a pightell, pickle, or pingle. The first word is frequently found in the inclosure award for Horningsey. See *The East Anglian*, Vol. i. pp. 189, 204.

² All kinds of spices?

³ An error for Angn', that is, Agnes.

William Christian¹ holds of the bishop of Ely one messuage, and j rood, by the service of vij^d, and he will find j man for services on request.

The same William holds of William Muschet two acres by the service of vj^d.

The bishop of Ely has in the village of Horn'gesheye x free cottagers, each of whom holds one messuage by the service of ij^s, and each of them is bound to find j man for services on request.

Isabella Hutlawe holds of William Muschet one messuage with a croft adjoining by the service of ij^s.

Alan de Heldeforde holds of the bishop one messuage with a croft adjoining by the service of ij^s, and he will find j man for services on request.

Walter Dorival holds of the aforesaid bishop two messuages by the service of iij^d and a halfpenny.

William Alwrech holds of the aforesaid bishop one piece of arable land by the service of a halfpenny.

EYE.

John de Herdwyck holds of the aforesaid Edmund and Margaret one toft², and one curtilage, by the service of homage, and the service of ix^s and ij^d; and he gives attendance upon his lord's court [facit sectam ad curiam]³.

William Covenore holds one toft of the aforesaid by homage, and the service of iijj^d, and attendance.

¹ A name probably derived from the Danes. See *Hist. of Christian Names*, Vol. i. p. 239.

² In English law a messuage is land with a building on it; a toft is the land, when that building has fallen into decay. Taking this distinction to be universally true, the two hamlets of Eye and Clayhithe are here represented, particularly the former, to be in a state of great ruin. But, perhaps, in some instances at least, a toft is merely a superior house to a cottage, and thus we have a list of actual dwellings with their tenants.

³ This phrase only occurs in connexion with the hamlet, and manor, of Eye.

Alice de Eye holds of the aforesaid one toft with a croft by homage, and the service of ij^s a year, and attendance.

Matthew de Eye holds of the aforesaid one toft by homage, and the service of ij^s, and attendance.

Walter Walseman holds of the aforesaid one toft, and j rood of arable land, by homage, and the service of ij^s iiij^d, and attendance.

Alice Chipawey holds of the aforesaid one toft by homage, and the service of vj^d, and attendance.

Alan Chipawey holds of the aforesaid one toft by homage, and the service of xij^d, and attendance.

The same Edmund and Margaret have xij villeins, of whom one holds one toft, and pays yearly ij^s vj^d, and iiij hens and one cock. Another holds of the aforesaid one toft, and one rood of arable land, and pays yearly v^d halfpenny farthing, ij hens and one cock. The third holds of the aforesaid one toft, and pays yearly xx^d, and ij hens and j cock.

Also, the fourth holds of the aforesaid one toft, and pays yearly xx^d, and ij hens and j cock.

The fifth holds of the aforesaid one toft, and pays yearly ij^s only.

The sixth holds of the aforesaid one toft, and pays yearly iiij^s only.

The seventh holds of the aforesaid one toft, and pays xvij^d, ij hens and j cock.

The eighth holds of the aforesaid one toft, and pays xvij^d, ij hens and j cock.

The ninth holds of the aforesaid one toft, and pays yearly iiij^d.

The tenth holds of the aforesaid one cottage, and pays yearly ij^s only. Also, the eleventh holds of the aforesaid one cottage, and pays yearly ij^s only.

The twelfth holds of the aforesaid one cottage, and pays yearly ij^s only.

CLEHE¹.

William de Howes² holds of William Muschet in the hamlet of Clehe one toft, and half an acre of arable land, by the service of xvij^d.

Geoffry Cook holds of the aforesaid William one toft, and j rood of arable land, and pays yearly xij^d, and he is bound to mow for j day, and make the hay, and to hoe [the corn] for two days, and to find one man in autumn for services on request.

Christiana, the daughter of Luke, holds of the aforesaid William one cottage, and pays yearly vj^d.

John Hunt holds of the aforesaid William one cottage, and pays yearly iiij^d, and ij capons, and he will mow for j day in the lord's meadow, and make the hay.

Henry Hoselot holds of William Muschet one cottage, and pays iiij^d.

5 Edw. III [1331] Johannes Haward [Howard] was found by means of a Post Mortem Enquiry to be in the possession of the manor of Eye-hall, together with other property in the parish of Horningsey, in right of his wife Alice Peche³. This lady was, most likely, the daughter of the Edmund and Margaret Peche mentioned above, and the sister of Sir Thomas Peche: she must have inherited the manor from her father.

38 Edw. III. [1364] the Lady Mary de St Paul held, on behalf of the nuns Minoresses of Denney in the parish of Waterbeach, the manor of Eye-hall, and also lands and tenements in Horningsey; in fact, she then held, and continued to hold up almost to the time of her death, all that had been

¹ An early mode of spelling (from the defective pronunciation, perhaps, of the word) what is now properly written Clayhithe. In the Court Rolls of the manor of Waterbeach cum Denney we have it spelt Clayeth in 1372.

² See *Hist. of Landbeach*, p. 96, note 2.

³ *Calend. Inquisit. Post Mortem*, Vol. II. p. 44.

owned there by Sir Thomas Peche and his sister. But, though this case occurs among the *Inquisitiones Post Mortem*¹, a jury had been summoned simply to determine, whether the king would be injured by her giving up the property just described to the abbess and sisters of Denney, which she did 49 Edw. III. She died 16th March, 1376-7, and in a few months it was found necessary to hold several meetings respecting the tithes of the manor of Eye-hall. The following is the account of those meetings.

12 Aug. A.D. 1377. In a 'parliatorium' near the conventual church of Denye. Johanna of Colchestre, abbess of St Clare, Deneye, and Hen. Broun, master of St John's hospital, met to settle about the great and little tithes of Hye-hall, belonging to Denye abbey. It was agreed, that the hospital should have the tithes of corn and hay 'garbas et fenum'; the abbey to have the other tithes 'etiam de nutrimentis [fodder] vaccarum suarum etiam ad firmam dimissarum,' for which they were to pay iij^s iij^d yearly to the hospital. Both parties agreed to submit to the award of the bishop of Ely [Thomas de Arundel] in regard of this agreement. Present, Hen. Dowet, LL.D., Jas. de Cotenham, advocate of the consistory of Ely, and Rog. de Harleston, literate of the dioceses of Carlisle and Ely.

Again, 30 Sept. 1378. The convent appointed Jo. de Newton², LL.D. their proctor.

Again, 19 April, 1379, in St Rhadegund's conventual church [at Cambridge] Thomas, bishop of Ely, appointed William de Gootham³, sacre pagine prof., and Tho. de Gloucestre, B.C.L. his commissaries to carry out the agreement, who, in the presence of Tho. de Dalby, and Tho. de Castrobernardi⁴, rector of Derkyng, diocese of Norfolk, and

¹ *Ibid.* Vol. II. p. 268.

² Master of St Peter's College in 1381.

³ See Bentham and Stevenson, Vol. I. p. 166.

⁴ Master of St Peter's College in 1400.

Lolleworth, diocese of Ely, appointed the undernamed notary to draw up a public instrument.

Again, 22 Jun., 1379, before Wil. de Gootham, Jo. de Neuton, proctor for the abbey, and Jas. de Cotenham, proctor for the hospital, stated their assent to the above agreement, which the commissary confirmed in presence of Rog. Harleston, and Pet. Caprikes, clerks of Ely diocese.

Attested by Rob. de Foxton, clerk of Lincoln diocese, notary public.

The manor belonged to the religious establishment at Denney until the Reformation. However, 28th October, 31 Hen. VIII. [1539] High (Eye) Hall, among the other possessions of the nuns, was made over by the king to Edward Elryngton, Esq., of London, who soon after exchanged it all back again to him. For many things, that concern the manor of Eye-hall, and its owners, the Lady Mary de St Paul, and Edward Elryngton, recourse must be had to the *History of Waterbeach*.

Thus, therefore, the Crown at length became the possessor of the manor of Eye-hall, as it did of much other property in Horningsey and the neighbourhood, which had belonged to the nuns Minoresses of Denney, and which evidently for a long period went with it. The tenant, or lessee, of it all from this time was a member of the Willyss family, and the annual rent paid by him may have been that sum of £97 12s. 1¼d., which afterwards remained a fee-farm rent still belonging to the Crown, even after the sale of the estate in the early part of the seventeenth century; for the second head of it, so far as we are able to become acquainted with their history, is said, like his father, to have been of Eye-hall, and to have died 11th September, 1567. This family then, but not immediately, made some change in their place of residence, and began to dwell partly in Horningsey (in the village, rather than at the manor-house), and partly in Fen Ditton,

since the head of it is thenceforth described as belonging to both villages¹.

In 1600 the manor of Fen Ditton was one of those alienated by compulsion from the see of Ely by Bishop Heton, in favour of Queen Elizabeth²; and at the same time, no doubt, the two manors were united together as common possessions of the Crown. Consequently, when James I., in February 1605-6, sold the royal property in these parts to Thomas Willows (Willyss) of Horningsey, and Richard Willows³ of the Inner Temple, London, for £3904 5s., mention is made of the manors of Fen Ditton cum Horningsey, alias Ditton Hall, and High Hall. As regards, however, the sum of £97 12s. 1½d., that was expressly reserved, and in 1626 made over by Charles I., amongst a great variety of other similar grants, to his queen, Henrietta Maria, for the term of her natural life⁴. Subsequently, this fee-farm rent was bought, in the reign of Charles II., by Sir George Downing, Bart., and thus eventually transferred to the College, which his grandson founded at Cambridge.

In 1641 Thomas Willyss, eldest son of Richard, was created a baronet⁵, from which time the history of the family is to be sought entirely in Fen Ditton, where many records of it may be found, particularly in the church. The male branch became extinct in 1732, and, in the following year, the sisters of the last baronet⁶ sold the manors with the rest of the estate to

¹ Burke's *Extinct Baronetage*; Clutterbuck's *Hist. of Hertfordshire*, Vol. II. p. 184.

² See Bentham and Stevenson, Vol. II. *Notes*, p. 106.

³ Chauncey's *Hist. of Hertfordshire*, p. 257 b; Cooper's *Memorials of Cambridge*, Vol. III. p. 237, note.

⁴ Rymer's *Fœdera*, Vol. XVIII. p. 706.

⁵ His brother Richard was also created a baronet in 1646, which title became extinct in 1701. For an account of the treacherous doings of Sir Richard Willyss, see Clarendon's *Hist. of the Rebellion*, Vol. V. pp. 295, &c. and Vol. VII. pp. 324, &c. 644, edit. 1826; Burnet's *Hist. of His Own Time*, Vol. I. pp. 112, &c. edit. 1823; Pepys' *Diary*, Vol. I. pp. 78, 127, and Vol. II. p. 430.

⁶ Bishop Hoadly's high character of Sir William Willyss, written

Henrietta, duchess of Marlborough in her own right, for £24,000, to the use of Lady Mary Godolphin, youngest daughter of herself, and of her husband, Francis Earl Godolphin, to whom she left it by will on her death in 1733. Thomas, fifth duke of Leeds, who had married Lady Mary Godolphin in 1740, parted with it all in 1749, under the provisions of a private Act of Parliament obtained four years before, to Thomas Panton, Esq., of Newmarket, chief groom to George II., for the sum of £34,750. The ownership of the manors, and of the other property, passed, first to Thomas Panton's only son Thomas, who died in 1808, and then to his granddaughter, Priscilla Barbara Elizabeth Bertie, declared in 1780 to be by descent Baroness Willoughby de Eresby. She was the eldest daughter of Peregrine, third duke of Ancaster and Kesteven, and had married in 1779 Sir Peter Burrell, Bart., of Beckenham, in the county of Kent, afterwards created Lord Gwydir. On her death in 1820 the estate came to her only son, Peter Robert Drummond Burrell. He, who had also succeeded to the barony of Willoughby de Eresby, sold the manors of Fen Ditton cum Horningsey by themselves in 1843, for the sum of £3,200, to John Haviland, Esq., M.D., of Cambridge, and they are now in the possession of his son, the Rev. John Haviland, Rector of Fladbury, in the county of Worcester.

The parish of Horningsey, situated a little more than four miles from Cambridge, towards the north-east, is in the hundred of Flendish, or Fleamditch¹, the district of Cambridge, and union of Chesterton. It lies on the right, or east, bank of the Cam, and is bounded by Fen Ditton (Dichtown) on the south, by Fen Ditton and Bottisham (Bodikesham) on the east, by

17th April, three days after his decease, is well worth reading. *Works*, Vol. i. Append. p. lii.

¹ Professor Babington's *Antient Cambridgeshire*, pp. 60, &c. The name comes from the Anglo-Saxon word fleam, *flight*; of course, by reason of some overthrow given in its neighbourhood.

Bottisham Lode on the north-east, and by the river on the north-west. We have seen, that it once had two hamlets, the hamlet of Eye, (the original settlement of the Horningas,) and the hamlet of Clayhithe, at which was, as there is still, an ancient ferry, but neither of them can now be said in any way to exist as hamlets.

The parish has been enclosed under an Act of Parliament passed 26th June, 1802, and the Award, which is dated 27th April, 1810, makes it to contain 1582a. 2r. 5p., whereof the impropiators, the Master and Fellows and Scholars of St John's College, possessed 344a. 2r. 37p; the representatives of the late Thomas Panton, Esq., the owner of the manor, 711a. 3r. 10p.; and 205a. 0r. 14p. were copyhold. The chief landowners at present are St John's College, King's College, Henry Norris, Esq., of Swalcliffe Park, Banbury, Mrs Saunders of Eye-hall, and Mr William Fison.

The village of Horningsey consists of one long street. Some of the houses, as was to be expected, have an antiquated appearance, though none may be older than 1662, which date is found on the chimney of one of them. Amongst them, on the east side, stands the National School, a modern brick building erected in 1841, whilst the present Master of St John's College was parochial chaplain: it has the following scriptural passage over the entrance door—*Sinite parvulos venire ad me*. At the north end are three houses of some pretensions for a village, tenanted by Mr Fison, and the Messrs Banyard, senior and junior. That one of them, wherein Mr Fison resides, has a very handsome front of wood and plaster, which part, at least, may well be ascribed to the reign of James I. Of the other two, the one to the east of the church belongs to King's College, and is the residence of the lessee of their farm. It has nothing particularly to recommend it externally, but within there is an old wainscotted room, very quaint and attractive, which, from the style and nature of its wood-work, is characteristic also of the early portion of the seventeenth

century. The house must have been then built by the head of the Willyss family¹, who, as tradition reports, inhabited it. The third house, close to the church on the north, is a mere farm house, occupied by Mr William Banyard, as lessee, under St John's College, of the rectory. Of Eye and Clayhithe, which in 1279 were called hamlets to Horningsey, the former is chiefly represented by a modern brick building, standing on the site of the original manor house, the dwelling in the sixteenth century of the Willyss family, but with nothing antique about it, or in its neighbourhood, except some of its fruit-trees, and a portion of the old moat, now dry. The remains of Clayhithe consist of a modern farm house, occupied like the Hall at Eye, by a member of the family of Saunders; and a pile of building belonging to the conservators of the river Cam, used for their annual festivities, with a toll-house. The name given to this part of Horningsey is justified by the existence of a large manufactory of bricks and tiles, for which there is here, and must always have been, an abundant supply of the proper material.

The population of Horningsey, which, at the last census in 1861, amounted only to 402, could at no time have been large. Cole says, that in 1676, the number of inhabitants was 124, and the remark is added, that there existed not a dissenter, or recusant, among them. These two statements, connected with the same subject, are extracted from the parish register. 10 March, 1801—By order of an Act of Parliament the following returns were made by the overseers and churchwardens of Horningsey. The parish of Horningsey contains 39 inhabited houses, occupied by 48 families; 0 uninhabited houses; 7 farm houses; 149 male persons; 144 female ditto; 293 total number of males and females, of whom 20 (?) are chiefly employed in agriculture, and 9 in trades and handicrafts, viz.: 3 shoemakers, 3 carpenters, and 3 publicans. The workhouse inhabitants belong to the parishes of Ditton, Milton, and

¹ He who was buried in the nave of the church in 1626; see p. 39.

Horningsey. June 1811—46 inhabited houses; 2 uninhabited; 49 families; 116 males; 117 females; total 233; 9 families employed in trade; 40 families in husbandry.

The village feast begins on the fourth Sunday after Trinity: it is a very small affair, and of short continuance.

Horningsey is so mixed up on one side with the parish of Fen Ditton, that it has always been hard to decide, to which of them certain lands belonged, and this uncertainty caused many disputes. The extract from the *Rotuli Hundredorum* printed above testifies to the existence of such uncertainty. For, even in 1279, the men, who were summoned to give evidence about the parish, could not say, in what proportions the land held by Hugh le Rus was owned by the bishop of Ely and William Muschet, and yet, according as it was owned by one or the other, it belonged to the parish either of Fen Ditton or Horningsey. So also, when a tax was levied upon the various parishes of the kingdom, in 1340, a joint sum of £26 13s. 4d. was required to be furnished by Ditton cum Horningsey¹, and, of course, by reason of a similar doubt respecting the actual boundaries of each parish. We may likewise refer, as regards the same point, to the *Inquisitio facta super Dittona et Horningesei*, which Cole copied². Somewhat later, however, the difficulty concerning the boundaries occasioned a Decree (expressly designed to give an authoritative settlement to the question,) by Master Henry Warre, keeper of the privy seal to Hen. V. (1417), and official of the archbishop of Canterbury, with the consent of the rector of Ditton, and the brethren of the Hospital of St John. This Decree goes very minutely into the subject, and, having been signed, 27th July, 1412, was confirmed by Bishop Fordham, 13th March, 1412-3³.

The property in the parish of Horningsey has recently been newly valued: the gross estimated rental is £3,178 19s. 4d.; and the rateable value amounts to £2,861 15s. 6d.

¹ *Communications*, C. A. S. Vol. I. pp. 7, &c.

² *MSS.* Vol. XLVI. pp. 30, &c.

³ *Ibid.* Vol. XIX. foll. 101 b, &c.

THE CHURCH.

PRIUSQUAM¹ paganorum rabies, qui in Orientali Anglia debacchati erant, circa provinciam Grantebryce efferbuisset, terramque vastationi et desolationi tradidisset, apud Horningeseie monasterium regiae dignitatis extitit, eratque ibi non parva congregatio clericorum. Eodem vero tempore, quo exercitus illo in loco debacchatus est [870], Cenwoldus presbyter sacerdotii officio fungebatur ibi. Tunc illi, qui ex paganismo ad baptismi gratiam confluxerant, dederunt prædicto monasterio v hydas in Horniggesie, et duas in Eie². Mortuo autem Cenwoldo successit in locum suum Herulfus presbyter, qui, quoniam secutus erat Æthelstanum regem [925—941], sub tutela et protectione illius locum optinuit. Illis tamen in diebus Wlfricus præpositus³, qui cognatus erat Cenwoldi, duas hydas supradictas de Eie vi et injuste abstulit monasterio. Deinde in diebus Ædgari regis [959—975] Æthelstanus presbyter, cognatus Herulfi, loco et vice ejus in eodem monasterio functus, sacerdotium optinuit. Qua tempestate contigit, ut quidam furarentur magna et innumera bona cujusdam Thorth nomine, Oslaci⁴ comitis filii: qui frangentes cophinos ejus extraxerunt sicam unam optime insignitam auro et argento, sed et plurima indumenta pretiosarum extraxerunt vestium; quæ secum

¹ These quotations are from the *Lib. Eliens.* Lib. II. capp. 32, 33, 45, 49.

² *Domesday Book* only assigns seven hides of about 240 acres each to Horningsey. The gift, therefore, of the Danish converts must have comprised the whole parish, and the figures five and two indicate the relative proportions of its parts. See p. 26, n. 1. To induce the Danes to be baptised was the policy of the period. Hook's *Lives of the Archbishops of Canterbury*, Vol. I. p. 307.

³ The provost, or head, of the monastery. Wlfricus was not, however, either necessarily, or even probably, in orders.

⁴ Oslacus possessed land at Cambridge and Dullingham. *Lib. Eliens.* Lib. II. cap. 19.

asportantes detulerunt omnia ad Æthelstanum presbyterum, eique commiserunt. Qui ea accipiens inclusit in cophinis Herulfi. Quibus ita peractis, furtum casu patuit. Nec mora, adest Thorth cum centurionibus et triumviris ac præconibus, et, reseratis cophinis Herulfi, reperit furtum sub custodia Æthelstani. Qui extemplo capitur, vinclis artatur, et ante conspectum pontificis Oskiteli sistitur. Interea venit Herulfus, et, casu Æthelstani cognito, accepit omnes gazas ecclesiæ, quas boni viri Deo devoti priscis in temporibus pro animabus suis monasterio impenderant, et veniens ad Wlstanum¹, dedit partem earum illi, eo pacto, ut eum misereretur, et ut monasterio suo diebus vitæ suæ potiretur. Quædam quoque ornamenta dedit episcopo², ne Æthelstanus presbyter vita privaretur, nec degradaretur. Post modicum tempus Herulfus presbyter tollitur e medio, et Æthelstanus successit pro eo. His itaque peractis, B. Æthelwoldus³ accessit quantocius ad regem Ædgarum, et emit ab eo Horniggesseie pro L aureis⁴. Tunc jussit Wlstanus, ut B. Æthelwoldus metiri fecisset terram, quam presbyter Æthelstanus habuit, videlicet iii [ii?] hydas de

¹ Wlstanus, vir venerandus de Dalham. He was a very great man, and resided near Newmarket. *Ibid.* Lib. II. capp. 2, 18, 55. See p. 56.

² Oskitelo. He was, first, bishop of Dorchester, about 948, then archbishop of York: he died in the year 971 at Thame, and was buried at Bedford by Thurkytel, his kinsman, because he was at that time abbot there. See *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle: Lib. Eliens.* Lib. II. cap. 31. Homo tam ob innocentiam vitæ, quam literarum non mediocrem cognitionem, multum celebratus. Dorchester, seven miles from Oxford, was the seat of a bishopric, which, in 1095, was removed to Lincoln. Oskitel and Thurkytel are Danish names, as are all with the same ending, which is said to refer to the 'cauldron of creation.'

³ That bishop of Winchester (minor Paulus—father of monks), to whom the monastery at Ely owed its restoration, and so much of its property. *Ibid.* Lib. II. passim. He died in 984.

⁴ Gold pieces: besaunts, probably, that is, gold coins of the Byzantine emperors. In the following passage the same coin seems intended:—William the Conqueror, on his triumphal entry into Ely, ad monasterium denique veniens, longe a sancto corpore virginis [Ætheldrythæ] stans, marcam auri super altare projecit. *Ibid.* Lib. II. cap. 111.

duodecies xx. acris¹. Quo audito, Æthelstanus cœpit usurpare sibi Eie, et attestari, quod illud esset jure suum proprium. Ut vidit tamen, quod contra episcopum suis viribus non sufficeret, petiit Wlstanum, fecitque sibi homagium, ac promisit illi Eie ad vendendum pro tanto pretio quantum sibi placeret, quatenus contra episcopum Æthelwoldum manu-teneret eum; quia episcopus appellabat eum de gazis ecclesiæ, quas ille et Herulfus cum sacrilegio extulerant. Taliter nactus est Wlstanus Eie per mendatia presbyteri, et per aliquantulum pecuniæ, sicque habuit, quamdiu vixerat, contra Deum, et contra B. Æthelwoldum. Post mortem vero illius, cœpit episcopus facere calumpniam super Eie, et super Æthelstanum, qui gazas ecclesiæ abstulerat. Videns igitur presbyter, quod nil proficeret, si cum episcopo contenderet, quæsit sibi patronos, scilicet Osulfum², et Godingum, et Ætferthum, et alios quam plures viriones, qui eum apud episcopum deprecarentur. Tunc episcopus, illorum rogatu, dimisit ei duntaxat calumpniam de gazis, eo pacto, quod redderet Deo et S. Ætheldrythæ Eie. Ivit igitur presbyter cum eo ad Hely, ac juravit super altare sanctum, et super corpus S. Ætheldrythæ, quod nec ille, nec aliquis successorum suorum, unquam tempore vitæ suæ, nec postea, Eie repeteret, nec calumpniam inde faceret.

Ante hoc IIII^{or} annis, Wlfricus præpositus exiit hominem, et dimisit nepoti suo, Leofstano presbytero, duas hydas, quas, ut ante docuimus, Deo et monasterio de Horniggeseie vi et injuste arripuerat. Interea quidam institores de Hybernia, cum variis mercibus et sagis, apud civitatulam, quæ Grantebrycge nuncupatur, appulerunt³; et expositis mercibus contigit, quod præfatus presbyter Leofstanus furtim subduxisset saga eorum. Quod

¹ The two hides in Eye, given to the monastery by the Danes, is the only land in dispute throughout this singular, and somewhat complex, narrative. A hide in Horningsey is here expressly stated to consist of 240 acres.

² Osulfus and Godingus lived at Gretune, now Girton. Godingus was buried at Ely. *Ibid.* Lib. II. cap. 11.

³ Does this circumstance bear at all upon the early history of Sturbridge Fair? But see Baker's *Account*, &c. pp. 15, 16.

cum patefieret, petiit patrociniū civiū, qui ei deprecāti sunt vitam et solum¹. Quod cum factum fuerat, præfatus presbyter duas hydas, quas Wlfricus præpositus ei dimiserat, dedit Wlfstano [Wlstano] cum chyrographo; Wlstanus vero dedit eas cum chyrographo Æthelstano Chusin, id est, cognato suo, quas, post obitum Wlstani, Æthelwoldus episcopus emit ab eo pro VIII libris.

Deinde post mortem Ædgari regis [975] prædictus Leofstanus et filius Wlfrici prosiluerunt, et vi optinuerunt 11^{as} præscriptas hydas Horniggeseie. Et Æthelstanus presbyter assultum fecit, et optinuit Eie, mentitus Deo et S. Ætheldrythæ iusjurandum, quod juraverat. Partitusque est presbyter terram de Eie cum duobus fratribus suis hoc modo: dimidiavit primum, et post dimidiam partem acceptam, accepit et tertiam. Eo enim majorem partem cepit, quo ei magis quam aliis terra constitit. Nam dedit Æthelstano filio Manne² duas marcas argenti³, et Omundo cum fratribus suis tantundem. Dedit etiam multa aliis proceribus, ut eum contra jus et fas tenuissent. Cum igitur presbyter Æthelstanus multis injuriis episcopum [Æthelwoldum] et abbatem [Brihtnothum]⁴ affectos reddidisset: post multa annorum curricula, consilium inierunt cum amicis; tandemque fecerunt, ut ille presbyter et fratres sui Bondo et Ælfstanus simul essent in unum, diemque constituerunt apud Horniggeseie. Venerunt itaque ad diem abbas et Alf-

¹ His landed property. The two hides in Eye.

² Manne was a priest, probably, in the monastery at Ely. *Lib. Eliens.* Lib. II. capp. 13, 15.

³ The mark, whether of silver or gold, was only a weight, never a coin. This Danish mode of computation had been introduced here about Ælfred's time. Humphrey's *Coinage of the British Empire*, p. 72, edit. 1861. In 1190 the value of a mark of gold was six pounds. Cooper's *Annals of Cambridge*, Vol. I. p. 29.

⁴ This abbot, who had first been prior of Winchester, is not to be confounded with his namesake, (slain by the Danes at Maldon in 991,) bonæ memoriæ, alderman, Deo amabilis et hominibus. *Lib. Eliens.* Lib. II. cap. 62. See Bentham and Stevenson, Vol. I. p. 85, and Addend. pp. 23, 24.

nothus¹ filius One, Vvi, et frater ejus Oswi², Wlnothus de Stowe, Grim filius Osulfi³, Saxferd et filius ejus Oskitelus, Oswi de Bece⁴, Alftanus Clac de Fugelburne [Fulbourn], Omundus et filius ejus Simundus, Vvi⁵, Wacher de Swafham, et Ælfnothus Godingy filius. Coram his ergo testibus dedit abbas Æthelstano pro sua parte de Eie unum prædium, et unam hydram de duodecies xx. acris⁶ apud Sneillewelle, quam emerat a Wedwino Aldstani filio pro vi. libris. Deditque etiam ei aliud prædium et LXXV. acras, quas emerat ab Hugone, et ab Alfrico⁷. Deditque etiam abbas fratribus Æthelstani, Bondoni et Ælfstano in eodem loco IIII^{or} libras et XVIII denarios; sicque pacificati sunt abbas et Æthelstanus, et Bondo et Alstanus [Ælfstanus] de omnibus, scilicet, de terra, et de marisco, et de pecunia, cum omni amicitia, et coram testimonio populi.

Emit⁸ episcopus [Æthelwoldus] ab Æthelstano Ægelwardi fratre duas hydas apud Hornigeseie pro VIII libris: nunc⁹ vero caremus et illa terra, et pecunia.

Deinde [Post obitum Ædgari regis, dum esset rex Æd-

¹ A man of this name had land at Wilburton. *Lib. Eliens.* Lib. II. cap. 12.

² Vvi and his brother lived at Wivelingham, or Willingham. *Ibid.* Lib. II. capp. 35, 66, 67.

³ Grim had land at Fordham. *Ibid.* Lib. II. cap. 31.

⁴ Saxferd or Saxferth, Oskitelus, and Oswi, were all inhabitants of Landbeach, the first two being Danes by descent. *Ibid.* Lib. II. capp. 10, 11. No names are more mixed up with such matters.

⁵ He may be the same, of whose not very creditable doings we read in cap. 18. Why (Vvi) is now well known in Waterbeach as a family name.

⁶ This is the common measurement in the *Liber Eliensis*. Once, however, if no oftener, the hide is said to contain only sexies xx. acras. Lib. II. cap. 11.

⁷ Abbot Brihtnoth had exchanged land with Alfricus de Suthtune or Sutton. *Ibid.* Lib. II. cap. 17.

⁸ This and the following extract refer to the first purchase of the land at Eye. The second purchase took place *some time after* King Edgar's death,—post multa annorum curricula. But the latter purchase was evidently not a whit more stable than the former had been.

⁹ Thomas, the monk of Ely, the compiler, if not the writer, of the *Liber Eliensis*, lived about the middle of the twelfth century.

wardus, et fere omnes sapientes sui, apud Kyngestune]¹, petierunt episcopus et abbas ab Ægelwino², ut adquietaret eis, et absque calumpnia habere faceret, duas hydas apud Horningeseie a filiis Wlfrici, quas, ut supra diximus, episcopus emerat ab Æthelstano [Chusin]. Quo audito, Ægelwinus cœpit semper bene promittere se hoc facturum; sed verba sua pondus non habuerunt, nec promissa ad effectum pervenerunt.

Nothing is said in the foregoing extracts about the fate which, in the ninth century, befel the buildings of the noble monastery at Horningsey, by reason of the incursion of the people, whom we are accustomed to call Danes. We learn only, that their army behaved itself very riotously, and committed many violent and barbarous acts: also, that it seized upon all the property in the parish. The Danes may have seriously injured, and laid waste, the religious establishment there, just as about the same time they rifled and burnt that at Ely. Still it is strange, that the monkish chronicler does not allude to the circumstance, if it really occurred, particularly, when we remember the intimate connexion, which, in his time, had existed for two centuries at least between both the places. But, though he omits to notice the buildings, and to say what was done with them, he does tell us, that the monastery at Horningsey was greatly benefited by some of the Danish invaders, new converts from paganism, who, in testimony of their gratitude to God, gave to the House, wherein they had been baptized, seven hides of land, that is, as it appears, the whole parish. This gift, which, from its size, must have come from important and influential persons, certainly militates against the notion, (except indeed it is regarded rather as an evidence

¹ Kingston upon Thames, where the Anglo-Saxon kings were accustomed to be crowned. Leland's *Itiner.* Vol. ix. p. 134.

² Qui cognominatus est alderman, quod intelligitur princeps sive comes [id est, senior vel dux]. His property was in Suffolk, by Ipswich. *Lib. Eliens.* Lib. II. capp. 7, 41. For an account of the ealdorman, whose 'dignity was next in importance to the royal,' see Kemble's *Saxons in England*, Vol. II. chap. 4. Ealdor or aldor denotes *princely dignity*.

of penitential sorrow for past excesses,) that the sacred buildings at Horningsey shared in the general ruin. Whether, however, they did suffer from the violence of the Danes, or whether they were allowed to escape comparatively, and even totally perhaps, unharmed, the monastery, it is quite clear, not only existed, but evidently flourished, in the reign of King Ædgar, a century subsequent to their invasion of the country : what became of it afterwards we are nowhere told.

The inmates of what, in the loose language of the day, was called a monastery, consisted of a large body of secular clergy or canons (*clerici*), who employed themselves, most likely, some in the work of teaching, and others as missionaries or religious instructors to the surrounding people. Notwithstanding its name, therefore, it was in fact simply a collegiate establishment, the members of which, being an independent corporation bound by a less stringent system than monks, and pledged to observe the laws of their community only so long as they continued to belong to it, of course, openly married, just as the parish priests at that time did not hesitate to do, no man forbidding them¹. It had, we perceive, in the ninth century, a head (*præpositus*); likewise, some one, whose peculiar duty it was to preside over, and to lead, the divine service, one holding in fact the position of chaplain. Besides, since the church of the monastery must also necessarily have been then, and indeed always, the church of the inhabitants of Horningsey, those, who in succession enjoyed the honourable and coveted office of the priesthood (*sacerdotium*), were really the parish priests for the time being. This office was not, however, easily obtained : in one instance important services, and royal interest, were required to procure it.

With respect to the year, when the monastery, which has been

¹ Though the married clergy had long been considered an inferior caste, it was only in the year 1059, that priests, who lived in wedlock, were *commanded* not to celebrate the sacred offices. Hook's *Lives of the Archbishops of Canterbury*, Vol. I. pp. 22, 23, 356.

so often mentioned, was founded, and the name of its founder or founders, we neither possess, nor can any where obtain, the slightest information; nevertheless, a conjecture on the subject may be hazarded. There is conceived to have been in every mark a religious establishment, with its own priest, and its own sacred property, either in land, or freewill offerings¹. Now, if this notion be correct, and the probability is greatly in its favour, the mark of the Horningas must have had a building for the express benefit, in spiritual matters, of its community; consequently, it would not be unreasonable to imagine, that the monastery of later days, as well as also the present church, gradually sprung out of it, and, by the mere change of circumstances, replaced it. This succession of edifices consecrated to the service of God on the same spot is a pleasing, and a very natural, notion: it approves itself to our minds, and does not in any way contradict, what we know of the sentiments, or practice, of early times.

The quotations from the *Liber Eliensis* respecting the temporal affairs of the monastery at Horningsey give us a very bad idea of the integrity of the clergy (to say nothing about the laity,) in the early Anglo-Saxon period. But such want of integrity, and equally the want of every correct and proper principle, was not confined to the secular canons, or other clergy, in connexion with our parish. The writer of that book² represents it as general, and, therefore, as occasioning the restoration by Dunstan, and his coadjutors, of the rule of St Benedict in its strictness, as well as the substitution of monks for clerics in every conventual building and monastery; still, it should be borne in mind, that the words are the words of a monk, a natural opponent, and even enemy:—Tempore gloriosi regis Ædgari tanta clericalis ordo quibusdam in locis confusione agebatur, ut non solum a vita secularium (the laity) excellentius nihil haberet, verum etiam improbis actibus longe inferior jaceret.

¹ Kemble's *Saxons in England*, Vol. II. pp. 424, 448, 453, &c.

² Lib. II. capp. 3, 51.

After the monastery, and its clerical inmates, had ceased to exist, at whatever time that event may have occurred, the patronage of the living undoubtedly passed into the hands of the abbot and monks of Ely, to whom, as we have learnt, at least the manor of Eye-hall also then belonged. From him it came in 1109 to Hervey, first bishop of Ely, his successor, who, by an arrangement consequent on the new state of things, and the division of the conventual property, which necessarily followed, was allowed to collate to the rectory of Horningsey, as often as was requisite¹. But this ecclesiastical preferment did not continue during more than a century afterwards to be a rectory. For the House or Hospital of St John (the Evangelist) having been founded at Cambridge some time during the reign of Hen. II., and, as we may judge from what Baker says, before the death of Bishop Nigellus, that is, between 1154 and 1169², by Henry Frost, a member of a very ancient, as well as of a very charitable, family residing there, Bishop Eustachius, who sat from 1198 to 1216, appropriated the rectory to it. The following document, sealed Thursday, 17th August, 1251, contains a copy of his deed of gift:—Universis Christi fidelibus presentes literas visuris, uel audituris, Walterus, Prior Eliensis, et eiusdem loci conuentus, salutem in domino. Nouerit uniuersitas uestra, nos cartam venerabilis patris nostri Eustachii, quondam Eliensis Episcopi, inspexisse in hec verba. Omnibus, ad quos presentes litere pervenerint, Eustachius, dei Gracia Eliensis episcopus, eternam in domino salutem. Vniuersitati uestre notum facimus, nos diuine pietatis intuitu Ecclesiam de Horningeseia hospitali Sancti Johannis de Cantebrigia, ad sustentacionem pauperum, concessisse perpetuo possidendam, salua vicaria centum solidorum presbitero, qui in eadem ecclesia residenciam faciet, et diuina in eadem ecclesia ministrabit. Electionem autem presbiteri, in dicta ecclesia

¹ *Lib. Eliens.* Lib. II. cap. 92; Bentham and Stevenson, Vol. I. p. 134.

² *Account*, &c. pp. 15, 19, 34.

pro tempore instituendi, nobis et successoribus nostris reservamus. Et in huius rei testimonium has literas predicto hospitali duximus concedendas. Hiis testibus. Domino S. Ridel Eliensi Archidiacono. Magistro B. Cantore Londoniensi. Roberto domini Regis [Johannis] capellano. Magistro Roberto de Eboraco. Radulfo capellano. Magistro Galfrido Grim. Johanne de Templo. Magistro Nicolas de Melketun. Johanne clerico, et multis aliis. Nos autem factum Reuerendi patris nostri Eustachii memorati ratum habentes et gratum, dictam ipsius concessionem grato concurrentes assensu confirmauimus. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum capituli nostri presentibus literis apposuimus. Datum Anno domini M.CC.L^o primo, apud Ely, die Jouis proxima post festum assumptionis Beate Virginis. The date of Bishop Eustachius' appropriation is not given, but we can arrive at a very near approximation to it in consequence of Stephen Ridel, the nephew of Bishop Ridel, being one of the witnesses, inasmuch as he was archdeacon of Ely from 1210 to 1214.

The above-mentioned appropriation of the rectorial tithes of Horningsey was confirmed by the prior of Ely, and his convent, under their common seal, in 1251, and, about the same time probably, by Hugh Northwold, bishop of Ely from 1229 to 1254, though neither in his case is the date of the year added. The whole of this latter document has likewise been printed, notwithstanding the slight connexion, which some of it has with the affairs of our parish:—Omnibus Christi fidelibus, ad quos presens scriptum pervenerit, Hugo, dei gratia Elyensis episcopus, salutem in domino. Cartas bone memorie Eustachii, quondam episcopi Elyensis predecessoris nostri, de Ecclesia de Horningesheya, salua vicaria; Item, De Ecclesia Sancti Petri de Cantebrigia extra portam¹, tenendis et habendis in proprios vsus cum pertinentiis suis; Item, De duabus Nauibus ad carandum roscum, et alia necessaria ad comburendum, per totum mariscum nostrum sine impedimento; Item, De libera cantaria

¹ *Ibid.* p. 20.

cum sepultura, ubi voluerint et elegerint; hospitali Sancti Johannis de Cantebrigia, et fratribus eiusdem domus, factas ab eodem, adiectis aliorum concessionibus dictum hospitale et fratres contingentibus, inspeximus:—Nos autem factum ipsius E. predecessoris nostri ratum et gratum habentes, dictas ecclesias et alia, prout in cartis eiusdem et aliorum plenius continetur, diuine pietatis intuitu prenominationis hospitali et fratribus concessimus, et hac carta nostra confirmauimus. In cuius rei testimonium hanc cartam, sigilli nostri appositione confirmatam, eis duximus conferendam. Hiis testibus. Magistro Roberto de Swardebby. Magistro Ricardo de Kyrkeham. Magistris Alexandro et Willelmo de Sancto Eadmundo. Magistro Johanne de Foxton. Magistro Stephano de Heydon. Philippo de Rauelly. Sampson de Sancto Eadmundo. Johanne de Templo, et aliis.

Things continued in this state a little more than fifty years. At length, in 1267, Bishop Hugh de Balsham made another concession, as regarded the incumbency of Horningsey, in favour of the brethren of the Hospital of St John, by conferring upon them the patronage of the vicarage, together with the endowment reserved to it by Bishop Eustachius¹. Henceforth, therefore, the parish was to be served merely by a curate, or parochial chaplain, of their own choice, and consequently from among their own body. Still, Hugh de Balsham's grant to them did not take effect without considerable trouble and expense, the archbishop of Canterbury (Robert Kilwardby?) during a visitation of his province, having instituted Reginald de Lenma (Lynn?) as perpetual vicar² of Horningsey, which act of injustice was only rectified after an appeal to Pope Nicolas

¹ *Ibid.*, p. 25.

² Vicars had originally no stronger hold upon their parishes than stipendiary curates have now. But 4 Hen. IV. [1403], an Act was passed, which required them, except in certain cases, to be permanent, canonically instituted and inducted, and sufficiently endowed at the discretion of the ordinary. A perpetual vicar was a vicar endowed, as distinguished from a temporary vicar, or curate. Johnson's *Clergyman's Vade Mecum*, Vol. I. p. 68.

III, and a hearing of the case by his delegate, the prior of Huntingdon. Thus for six centuries Horningsey was simply a chaplaincy, and might, if the proper authorities so wished it, be served (at least, of late years,) by a different clergyman every Sunday; but, since 28th March, 1862, by the operation of a recent Act of Parliament, the chaplaincy became (in the person of the Rev. Arthur Calvert), and will henceforth remain, a perpetual curacy¹.

In the library of Caius College is a manuscript volume of considerable importance in relation to the ecclesiastical ornaments, as they are styled, anciently belonging to the several parish churches within the jurisdiction of the archdeacon of Ely. The contents of the book are ascribed for the most part to the year 1306, or thereabouts; on the other hand, the many alterations and additions found therein are conceived to have been made not later than 1349. The following is the account of Horningsey and its church, which is given in the original Latin, but without the contractions, the later portions being placed within crotchets:—

Ecclesia de Horningsey appropriata fratribus hospitalis Sancti Johannis de Cantabrigia, et taxatur ad. xxv. marcas² [dimidiam], et soluit pro sinodalibus ij^s iiiij^d, pro procuracionibus xviiij^d³, pro denariis Beati petri ij^s⁴. Et sunt eius ornamenta hec : missale [ij ... lia] : ij Antiphonaria⁵ [j ... narium] cum Psalterio : Psalterium [ij ... ria deficientia, the last word being subsequently crossed over,] perse : ij gradalia cum vno troperio : j legenda bona, et alia sufficiens : j ordinale, et j manuale, et

¹ The perpetual curacy was created by 1 Geo. I. [1715], which assigned this title to all the parishes, whose ecclesiastical revenues were increased by the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty.

² Is this high valuation made up of £5, or seven marks and a half, for the vicarage, and £12, or eighteen marks, for the rectory?

³ The sum of six shillings is paid to the bishop, as impropriations, by the owners of the great tithes.

⁴ See Hook's *Lives of the Archbishops of Canterbury*, Vol. I. p. 252.

⁵ For explanatory remarks, see *Hist. of Landbeach*, pp. 74, 75.

aliud manuale : [j martilogium : j legenda :] [iiij] paria vestimentorum cum pertinencijs : [tunica dalmatica : capa [ij ... pe] chori :] Crismatorium bonum [insufficiens, but this word was afterwards struck out] : Pixis eburnea : iiij Phiole : calix [ij ... ces] : ij cruces : j Turribulum bonum, et aliud [in] sufficiens : j lanterna¹ : vexillum bonum [iiij ... la ... na] : fons plumbatus sine serura : [ij superpellicea : j Rochetum :] j dalmatica deficiens : candelabra processionis, et lanterna, et celatura (carved work) vltra altare, et tabula² retro altare ; nec est ibi lumen competens³.

Vnus pannus sericus pro defunctis : vnum vestimentum integrum, cum tunica et dalmatica eiusdem secte, de serico, cum Griffonibus, de dono Willelmi de Howes⁴. Item vnum missale de dono domini Willelmi de [name omitted] capellani : vnum portiforium bonum, hapsatum argento (with silver clasps), coopertum corio rubeo, de dono domini Stephani Segyn⁵ nuper Rectoris ecclesie Sancti Leonardi in Londonia.

In 1548 a cause about tithes, and other ecclesiastical dues, was instituted by John Blythe, M.D., to whom a lease of the parsonage of Horningsey had been granted by the Master and Fellows of St John's College. He was the first Regius Professor of Physic, and brother-in-law of Sir John Cheke; he may also have been a relation of Geoffry Blythe, LL.D., who in 1528 was Master of King's Hall, (afterwards absorbed into Trinity College,) and vicar of Chesterton⁶. Certain of the parishioners of Horningsey were summoned on the occasion,

¹ This, as well as, perhaps, the lantern afterwards mentioned, was used, when the sacrament of the eucharist was being carried to the sick. See *Communications*, C. A. S. Vol. I. p. 271.

² A board, on which were noted the names of the persons to be prayed for.

³ The Early English windows of the chancel did not throw sufficient light upon the high altar, as any one may even now see.

⁴ See p. 16.

⁵ A near relative, no doubt, of the Robert Segym mentioned on p. 13.

⁶ Cooper's *Athen Cantab.*

whose names it is worth recording:—Stephen Hunsfeld alias Howell, Roger Partriche, Thomas Ffyson, Thomas Mawmond, Henricus Rushewell, John Partriche.

Among the Records in the custody of the Master of the Rolls preserved in the Public Record Office, London, to wit, Inventory of Church Goods, Cambridgeshire, 3 Edw. VI. [1549], it is thus contained :

This is the extracte of all y^e plate and Belles now remayninge and belonginge to every parishe Church^e or Chaple wⁱⁿ y^e Three Hundredes of Stane, Staplehoo & Flendich in the Cowntie of Cambridge, as folowth, made the xxiiijth of March In the thirde yere of the reigne of o^r. soveraigne Lorde Edwarde the vjth.

Hundred de Flendich.

Ecclesia de)	{ There is one Chalis gilt cont—xiiij. oz..
Horningsey)	{ Belles—iiij, one Sanctus ¹ bell.

The parish of Horningsey is in the deanery of Cambridge, and subject to the jurisdiction of the archdeacon of Ely.

The church is dedicated to St. Peter. It has a south stone porch, a nave with north aisle, and a chancel, covered with tiles ; it has also a western tower, and a south aisle, covered with lead.

Cole gives a pen-and-ink view of the church, taken 5th July, 1745². At that time he says nothing respecting its state, either internally or externally, but in 1779 he describes it as being ‘in a deplorable, nasty, and shattered condition.’ And so, on the whole, it remained until it underwent a very extensive renovation, partly at the expense of the College, and partly of the parish, in 1847, during the chaplaincy of the Rev. George Fearnsey.

The porch with its quatrefoiled circles on each side, and, it may be, a square niche for a small statue in front, belongs chiefly to the same style of architecture as the aisles of the church, which are late Decorated ; grotesque figures, acting as

¹ See *Hist. of Landbeach*, p. 76, n. 3.

² *MSS.* Vol. VIII. fol. 15 b.

gurgoyles¹, ornament its eaves, and tell us, that, as well as the south aisle, it once had a parapet. The door leading into the church is likewise late Decorated. The foundations of the porch, however, are considered to show late Norman work.

The tower has two large buttresses, much more modern than itself, at its south-west angle: these have the original stringcourse buried behind them, and were added, when the belfry was built. The lower stages are late Norman; the windows above, and, probably, the stone work, late Decorated: the odious graduated parapet was added about forty years ago. In 1745, as we are informed by Cole, there was a clock in the tower. We have seen, that in 1549 the tower possessed four bells; it contains the same number at present, but forming a perfectly distinct peal. The existing bells all bear an inscription recording the names of their several makers². 1. J. H. [John Hodson] made me, 1654. John Crisp, C. W. 2. Thomas Draper made me, 1590. 3. Christopher Graye made me, 1680. 4. Johannes Draper me fecit, 1608. The low and narrow tower-arch is blocked up.

In the middle of the western end of the nave stands, but only of late years, a plain Early English octangular font: it rests on four similar shafts, which surround a fifth, containing the water-drain; the whole being raised on two octangular steps, one very small, the other much larger. The two arcades of the nave are entirely different from each other: certain pillars of each of them were covered with ornamental painting, as in Waterbeach Church, remains of which are still to be seen. The northern arcade is excellent late Decorated work throughout all its four equilateral arches with their pillars; whilst that to the south, if we omit the easternmost arch (which springs a foot and a half higher than the rest, though rising from a somewhat shorter pillar), is, perhaps, entirely late Norman. Of

¹ 'They represent evil beings, demons, &c. chased forth from the holy walls by the power of the church.'

² See Lukis' *Account of Church Bells*, pp. 13, 16, 18.

course, this Norman part of the southern arcade establishes the existence of an earlier church, just as the easternmost arch, notwithstanding the presence of Norman work in both its pillars, seems to prove, that the nave of that church was afterwards lengthened towards the east, and, we may fairly presume, in the thirteenth century, when the present chancel was built. There are no clear-story windows¹, and only an angular plastered roof, with the very plainest of tie beams. The octagonal pulpit, and the reading desk, are placed against the north-easternmost pillar. The latter has no particular value: on the contrary, the former, with its tester, is a good specimen of its kind, its panels being completely ornamented with carvings of the linen pattern, and may probably be referred quite to the early portion of the seventeenth century. The seats in the nave (and so in the south aisle, for the north aisle has none of them,) are mostly oaken benches of the Perpendicular period, with small buttresses, and date from about the middle of the fifteenth century. In the floor of the nave is a stone with the following inscription:—*Hic requiescit Thomas Willyss armiger, qui obiit nono die Februarij anno Domini Millessimo Sexcentesimo vicessimo quinto [1625-6], ætatis suæ Sexcesimo Septimo.* The arms are also engraved at the top,—*per fess gules and argent, three lions rampant, counterchanged, a bordure ermine.* Thomas Willyss' crest (which is not on the stone,) consisted of two lion's paws, erect and erased, on a wreath, the dexter gules, the sinister argent, holding an escocheon, or. The coat appears to have been borne at first without the bordure.

The north aisle has been much injured by a modern roof, which, after the fashion of the previous roof, includes the body of the church, and the aisle, in a single span, but has cut off its 'highly valuable' windows at the top. The lowest window had in

¹ Such windows did not enter into the original design, and have never been added. Hokynton and Milton churches never had any. A large proportion of our early parochial churches were built without them. They date chiefly from the introduction of flat or low roofs, as at Fen Ditton, Chesterton, and Waterbeach.

it in Cole's days a figure of St John of Beverley, fourth archbishop of York¹, with his name beneath, but why, it is not easy to conjecture. Living as he did in the seventh and eighth centuries, was he supposed by tradition to have been in any way concerned with the monastery formerly existing in the parish? The east end of this aisle once had a side chapel, the blocking up of whose piscina is clearly to be traced, as is likewise the extent westward of its screen, or parclose. The aisle serves in some measure for a vestry, inasmuch as such parish documents, as are kept in the church, are there deposited in two large boxes, of which one may be the 'great hutch' left conditionally to it in 1529 by Margerie Swette. The Sunday School, which was established 4th June, 1809, by the then parochial chaplain, the Rev. Ralph Tatham, to commemorate the day of Jubilee, when George III. entered upon the fiftieth year of his reign, used to be held in this aisle, but is now held in the nave. The long clunch bench under the windows formed a portion of the accommodation originally provided for the parishioners during the time of divine service. It still reaches, as it did at first, from the parclose of the side chapel to the north door of the church. A similar bench is to be seen in Waterbeach Church, which cannot be less than six centuries old.

As regards the south aisle, three of its original windows remain, all very good, that at the east end furnishing one of the best examples of Decorated tracery under a depressed arch, which we can meet with. The other two windows, at the west end, in imitation of the old Decorated work, have only just been put in at the expense of the Rev. Arthur Calvert, the late perpetual curate. In this aisle formerly existed a greatly enriched side chapel; of it there now remain a splendid niche for a statue, and a piscina, with a peculiarly shaped bason, once

¹ Bede's *Ecclesiastical History*, Book v. cap. 2, &c.; *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* under the years 685 and 721. St John lived nearly the last four years of his life at Beverley in the habit of a monk, and was buried there.

elaborately coloured. This may be the side chapel, to which Thomas Coyle bequeathed xx^d in 1531, and was therefore dedicated to the Virgin Mary: its extent is very marked, it reached westward, as far as the chancel arch of the earlier Norman church. Quite at the west end, in the pavement, are two ornamental stone lids of coffins, a third lying loose in the north aisle. They were discovered in 1847 very near to the south door, and have all been engraved. The former two are referred to the thirteenth, and the third, or smallest one, to the fifteenth, century¹. One of the lids, by far the largest, was over a stone coffin, which also was taken out at the same time: the others had been placed over wooden coffins, 'as was evident from the bones and fragments found beneath them.' Possibly, the stone coffin had contained the body of an ecclesiastic, the vicar, or chaplain, of the parish; whilst of the two wooden coffins, judging from the size of their lids, one may have been used for the burial of a grown-up person, but the other, that in the north aisle, and the most modern, could hardly have served for more than a child. Under the eaves of this south aisle is a mask of the human face; supposing it to have belonged at all to the church, it must now occupy a new position.

In 1745 the nave was separated from the chancel by a wooden screen, of which the bottom portion still stands in its own place. There is no chancel arch; nevertheless, the chancel (which begins one bay more easterly than in Norman times) can be, and is, distinguished from the nave both by the outside, roofing², and by its floor being raised one step. This chancel is Early English, and replaced the Norman apse: buried beneath its east gable was recently found a highly ornamented fragment of what may have been a part of the old Norman chancel arch. Four of the original lancet windows remain: they are trefoil-headed, and deeply splayed. Moreover,

¹ Cutts' *Manual of Sepulchral Slabs and Crosses*, pp. 16, 82, 86.

² The chancel, on the outside, ought always to be lower than the nave, whereas at Horningsey it is higher.

in the side walls are four windows of the Perpendicular style, which have all been recently more or less restored: the east window is an entirely new specimen of the same style. The painted glass in this window consists of fragments of the old glass: on the other hand, the painted glass in the windows of the aisles, some of which is also ancient, was collected from various parts of the church no long time ago, and arranged, as at present, at the expense of the Rev. Churchill Babington, then parochial chaplain. The Early English piscina, with its double bason, is quite modern, but, of course, exactly after the pattern of the former one¹. The priest's door and its flat hood-mould on the south side, as well as the very small cupboard, or aumbry, on the north side, are Early English. Had this curious aumbry any thing to do with the Easter sepulchre²? The altar stands, as it did in 1745, on an eminence of three steps, and is railed in. In the pavement are two stones with matrices of ancient brasses, that which had a figure on it having been, however, improperly reversed. A third stone alone bears any inscription:—Robert Larnes was buried the 4th day of February, anno Domini 1650 [1651].

The church plate is quite modern. It consists of an elegant silver flagon presented by the Rev. Churchill Babington, with a paten, and massive chalice, both silver-gilt, the gift, in 1829, of the Master and Fellows of St John's College.

The churchyard, which, from some cause or other, has been but little used on the north side, contains 2R. 35P., and in it are tombstones with the following inscriptions:—

In memory of Thomas Grain, who died March 29, 1783, aged 52 years.

In memory of Mr. Robert White, many years Town Clerk of Cambridge—who, after the vicissitudes of Mortality,

¹ When the reparations of the chancel took place in 1847, a small collection of coins of the Plantagenet reigns was found at the back of this 'most curious' piscina. *Communications*, C. A. S. Vol. II. p. 355.

² See *Hist. of Waterbeach*, p. 61.

reposes in this spot: hoping, through the mercies of Jesus Christ, for a blessed resurrection to Immortality. Died in the 71st year of his age, 14th of Sep^r. Anno Domini 1817.

In memory of Sarah, the wife of Richard Starmer, who died Dec: 27: 1825. Aged 23 years.

In memory of Jonathan Fison, who died on the 21st day of January, 1844: in the 85th year of his age.

Adjoining the churchyard is a small residence house for the perpetual curate, with a garden, occupying altogether 1r. 12p. There would appear to have been such a residence house, if not always, (which is by no means unlikely,) at least, since the College came into possession of the property at Horningsey, and, possibly, on the same site. It is much to be regretted, however, that some care is not taken, and some expense incurred, to render it more convenient and attractive, than it now is, in order to induce the holder of what has at length become a benefice, to reside among his people, and thus terminate a state of things, which, how long soever it may have existed, can hardly be so conducive, as a different arrangement would be, to the good either spiritual or temporal of those, over whom he is permanently placed.

The following document is only according to the usual form adopted in the sixteenth century:—

Nicholas Metcalffe Doctor in diuinitie Master and keper of y^e coll. of Saynte John theuangelyst in Cambrydge, and y^e fellowes [and scolers *erased*] of y^e same Coll. sende gratytynge in oure lord god euerlasting

Knowe ye us y^e sade M^r and fellowes of one assent and consent to haue constytute and ordenyd our wellbeloued in Chryste John Belwod, Clarke, to be chapleyn and curat of y^e parysshe Chyrch of Hornyngsey within y^e countye of Cambryge appropred to our sade Coll., And to haue y^e cure of sowles of al y^e parysshynghers of y^e sade parysshe, To haue exercyse and occupye the sayde rowme of Chapeleyn and curat of y^e Chyrch afore-

sade of our gyft to gyther with y^e tenement called y^e vycarege macion with all thappertenances thervnto belongyng or befall- yng to y^e sade John Belwode, Clark, or to his suffycient deputye, by vs to be habeled in tyme of sekenes of y^e sade John, or other lawfull impediment, from y^e date hereof duryng y^e life naturall of y^e said John, TAKYNG and Receyuyng of vs yerely for his stypende and wages in y^t behalfe vi^{li} sterlyng within our sade [college] in maner and forme folowyng to be payd: That ys to say, at y^e feast of Saynt Mychaell tharchangell next comyng after y^e date hereof xxxs., And at y^e feast of y^e Natyuyte of our lord god then next folowyng xxxs., and at y^e feast of y^e an- nunciacion of our blessyd lady xxxs., And at y^e Natyuyte of Saynt John Baptist then next folowyng xxxs., And so forth yerely at euery one of sade feastes xxxs. sterlyng to y^e sade John to be payd duryng al his lyfe naturall. PROVIDED alway y^t y^e sade John support susteyn and maynteyn y^e sade vycarege macion in all thynges concernyng y^e same in good and sufficient Reparacions duryng his sade lyfe. And we y^e sade M^r and felowes shall dyscharge y^e sade John of procurages, and sinag [synodals], and of all other charges, whattsoeuer they be, concernyng y^e sade chyrch of Horningsey due or goyng out of y^e same. IN wyttenes whereof we y^e said M^r and felowes hath put to our comyn capitulum seale y^e xxi day of June, y^e yere of our lord god M.CCCCC.XXXII.

But this mode of appointing a clergyman to take charge of the parish of Horningsey had been changed, long before the perpetual curacy was created, for the short and significant sentence, 'during our pleasure,' a sentence, which affirmed uncontrolled authority over the parish to reside in the members of the College, and which aptly expressed the nature of the relationship between all the three parties.

The registering of Baptisms, Marriages, and Deaths, begins with January 1627-8, and the entries are continued down to the present time with great regularity. The earliest book served a variety of purposes, being first used, and from the

year 1603, (which use lasted throughout the century,) to record the auditing of the parish officers' accounts, but without specifying any of the items themselves from those accounts. In the same book are also recorded from 1632 the binding out of parish apprentices 'according to the statute made and provided'. We likewise find therein a notice, that the choice of the parish had, 11th November, 1654, fallen on Thomas Barber of Horningsey as 'Register for Maredges, Christenings, and Burialles,' and that he was sworn in at Cambridge on the same day before James Brackley². Again, the book contains a statement of the Collections on Briefs made in Horningsey Church in and from 1661, for the relief of families, and individuals. The sum raised there in the first year, on sixteen different occasions, amounted to £3 11s. 6d. Loyalty to the Crown was manifestly the prevalent feeling in Horningsey, as soon as the restoration of the Stuarts permitted of its being safely shown, inasmuch as the several parts of the register are dated from the yeare of y^e Raine of oure Soveraine Lord Charles y^e Second, reckoning from the day of the decapitation of his father. Lastly, by means of the entries of marriages we learn, that that rite was occasionally performed in the chapel of St John's College, as indeed was allowable until the passing of the Marriage Act in 1754.

VISITATION OF LANCELOT, BISHOP OF ELY, 1610.

Horningsey

Mr. Richardus Hoord, Curatus, co[m]paruit
Firmarius Rectorie, Mr. Thomas Jugge. Non co.

Thomas Wrighte	} Gard[iani]	} Co. Jur'.
Edwardus Boyde		
Randallus Runde	} Inquisitores	
Thomas Porter		

Omnia Bene.

¹ 43 Eliz. [1600], cap. 2, § 5.

² For the cause of this election, see *Hist. of Landbeach*, p. 82.

Horningsey. 1613.

Mr. Richardus Horde, Cur' et Predicator¹. Co.

Firmar' Rectorie, Mr. Thomas Jugge. Co.

Michaelis Woodhouse	} Gard'.	} Gard' co. et jur'.
Tho. Barker		
Johannes Simon	} Inquis ^s .	} per Doctorem Gager.
Ruben Blunt		
		Co. omnes et jur'.

Horningsey. 1616.

Mr. Richardus Horde, Capellanus. Co.

Firmarius Rectorie, Mr. Thomas Jugge. Co.

[Name omitted] Ludimagister

Wilhelmus Atkinson	} Gard'.	} Co. omnes et jur'.
Jo. Hurrey		
Ruben Blunt	} Inq ^s .	
Johannes Simons		

PAROCHIAL VISITATION, 1665.

Horningsey, 28 Aug.

Jeremie Cross	} Gard'. co ^t .
John Emmons	

1. The couer of the Font to be amended. The sleyhting in the Church on the north side to be amended ×². The Communion table to be amended × Jewells Apologie to be new bound × The bible to be new bound ×

2. The chancell to be new whited, and plastered where it is needful, and to be amended in the tiling ouer the Communion table on the south side ×

3. The old Flagon to be changed for a bigger ×, or els another to be bought equall to the old one. The old Patten to

¹ See Canons XXXVI. XLV.

² The crosses point out the things, which were afterwards certified as amended.

be changed for one that is larger × A napkin for the Communion table ×

4. The Pulpit and Deske to be hung with greene¹ cloth and fringed. The glasse windowes both in Ch : and Chancell to be amended ×

5. A book of Homylies and Cannons wanting to be provided ×

Habent ad parandum et certificandum citra festum Nat^{tis} Domini prox^{mum}.

24^o Octobris co^t. Emmons et cer^{vit} : inde dimittitur. Solvit 2s. 10d.

At the Visitation in 1685, Teversham, Fenditton, and Horningsey, are on a page headed Exempt Townes.

Horningsey, 1685.

Y^e Church to bee kept cleane, And to provide a decente Cover and Plugg for y^e Fonte, and to keepe it cleane.

To mende y^e Seates which wante boarding.

To secure and repaire y^e Churchwall, which leanes, and is crackt, and to tile and pointe y^e Church.

To provide a booke of Homilyes, and a booke of Cannons.

The Bible wanting one chapter to bee made perfecte.

To give Notice to y^e Impropiators, or their Tennants, to Tile, pointe, plaister, and whiten y^e chancell, and to repaire y^e Windows, and y^e Seates which wante boarding.

*John Sewet*². 25th February, 1517-8. Ego Johannes Sewet de Clayhithe infra parochiam de Horningsey, &c. Corpus meum sepeliendum in ecclesia Sancti Petri de Horningsey : high altar xx^d³ : ad reparacionem torcheorum⁴ vj^s viij^d : ad reparacionem campanarum iij^s iiij^d. Item, lego villanis de Ditton domum meam ibidem cum uno crofto, unam rodam et

¹ So also it was ordered at Waterbeach and Landbeach.

² These wills are all taken from Cole's *MSS.* Vol. LX.

³ Legacies to the high altar are always for tithes forgotten.

⁴ For use in church.

dimidiam terræ, ad utilitatem pauperum villæ prædictæ. To Margery, my wife, my tenement with an acre of land in Clayhithe, for her life, with all his (its) grain, and after her death to John my son, and xx^{li} in the hands of Robert Wolf of Cambridge, who was to be guardian to John: to Symon Harrison and Etheldreda his wife, my daughter, iiij horses, &c. Item, lego Simoni Harrison, et Wilhelmo Gray, et uxoribus suis, terminos annorum, quos habeo per indenturam de Dominabus meis de Denney in Hihall. Item, lego Dominæ meæ Abbatisse de Denney, et Sororibus suis, hoc anno xl^s, et in anno proximo sequenti xl^s, ad orandum pro anima mea. Item, lego Aliciæ Payne, moniali de Denney, iijs iiij^d, durante vita sua quolibet anno. Item, lego John Shaw, curato meo, iijs iiij^d. My wife, so long as she is a widow, yearly to have eight acres of land tilled and sown. Supervisors¹ William Nelson, et Oliver Scalys. Witnesses, Henry Whilett, Richard Yeve, Henry Isacson, John Butler.

Philip Leche. 1523. High altar xx^d : reparation of church wall iijs iiij^d : bells iijs iiij^d : half a Trental² to be done for me immediately after my departure. To Henry Hart a doublet of worsted : to Eleanor and Margaret, my daughters, a calf each : to John Suett and John Partriche a fole each : to our Lady's gild a comb of barley, another to Saint Peter's gild³ : to my mother a chamber in my house. Witnesses M. Stevynson, curate, Stephen Cooper.

Thomas Howlyng. 15th December, 1528. High altar ijs : bells xx^d : to Johan my daughter a bullock⁴ : my house to my

¹ The supervisor, or overseer, of a will was in reality quite distinct from the executor, though the word has sometimes been used to signify the same person.

² A trental of masses consisted of thirty masses said by threes within the octaves of ten different festivals throughout the year. *Works of Hugh Latimer*, Vol. I. p. 56, n. 1, Park. Soc.

³ These gilds were held in the church. See *Hist. of Waterbeach*, p. 40.

⁴ Bullock, probably, in this place means a cow. See *Hist. of Landbeach*, p. 60, n. 2.

wife for life, and, if she has a son, to him, and, if he dies, to Johan my daughter, and if all die, to go to our Lady's gild, to keep a Dirige¹ and Mass for my soul, and Emma's my wife, spending every year ij^s. Witness, Sir Christopher Wright, curate, John Chapman, Robert Porter, Jeffry Symbsy.

Margerie Swette. 25th April, 1529. High altar xij^d, to Cecily my daughter a cow, a kerchief, a mattress, coverlet, and iiij chickens : to Helene Legge a cap : to Audrey my daughter a gown, and a wympill kercher² : to Mabil Cole a flaxen shete : to John Sutte my son, a cow, and a great hutche ; and after his death the hutche to remain to the church³. Witness Nicolas Driver.

Thomas Coylle, husbandman⁴. 10th November, 1531. Body to be buried in the chancel of St. Peter's church : high altar iiij^s iiij^d : to our Lady's chapel xx^d : to our Lady's gild a combe of malte : to Saint Peter's gild a quarter of malt : to the church vj^s viij^d : reparation of belles iiij^s iiij^d : to my wife Margaret all my copies (copyhold property), between the church and the water : to her also a cottage that was John Cannay's, and another that was young Henry Hart's, to give or sell : she to have a close at the Hye Hall for life, and then to Thomas my son, to whom I give a cottage with half a yardland⁵, that was Philip Tykott's, with Crabtree close sometime Master Philip Metcalfe's : to my wife iiij of my best horses, iiij oxen, vj mares, ij carts, plough, &c. : to Margaret my daughter v combes of barley : to Joan my daughter xx combs and a Heckford⁶. Witness John Belwood, clerk, John Chapman, Robert Porter.

Nicolas Dryver. 6th January, 1540-1. My soul to God,

¹ The Office for the Dead. See Clay's *Private Prayers of the Reign of Queen Elizabeth*, pp. 57, 60, notes, Park. Soc.

² An article of out-door dress. A kind of hood, which fitted to the head, and formed a covering also to the neck and shoulders.

³ See p. 40.

⁴ A tenant farmer in contradistinction to a yeoman.

⁵ A virgate, or yardland, contained thirty acres or thereabouts.

⁶ A heckford or heckferth meant a *heifer*.

and my body to the churchyard : high altar xij^d : to the highways xij^s iiij^d : to the mending the churchwalls¹ vj^s viij^d : my house to the poor yearly.

Henry Wylliott. 26th January, 1540-1. My soul to God, our Lady, and all saints : my body to the church or churchyard : high altar iij^s iiij^d : to Horningsey church vj^s viij^d : to the causeway and highways there xij^s iiij^d : to Horningsey church an alb and cope² : to the reparations of Milton church vj^s viij^d. Witness Randall Halle, Thomas Cole, Henry Rushewell, John Hurre, Thomas Howlyng.

John Type. 25th August, 1543. High altar vj^d : bells xij^d : mending the churchwall ij^s iiij^d : to the highway by my house iij^s iiij^d : all my lands, free and copy, in Horningsey and Ditton to Joane my wife. Witness Sir Richard Wylkynson, my ghostly father.

THE PARISH PRIESTS.

WE know the names of three presbyters³, who may well be conceived to have served the parish church of Horningsey in the ninth and tenth centuries, but only of three,

Cenwold,

Herulf,

Æthelstan.

On the other hand, neither whilst the advowson of the living belonged to the abbot and monastery of Ely, nor whilst the same ecclesiastical patronage, under the different titles of rectory and vicarage, was enjoyed by the bishop of Ely, the successor of the abbot, do we in one instance learn, who had at any time been collated to it. And nothing else could well be expected, because no nomination to the incumbency of the parish

¹ See p. 47.

² See Procter's *Hist. of the Book of Common Prayer*, p. 199, note.

³ Pp. 24, 25.

was able to take place, as regarded the bishop, after 1267; and this even is seventy years before the episcopal registers, in their present state, begin. Subsequently to that year, the church being served only by a parochial chaplain or curate, who had no more hold upon his charge, than the authorities chose to give him, an induction was not necessary, wherefore the name of the parish priest could not appear in the registers; and the parties, who thenceforth, and down to the beginning of the sixteenth century, appointed him, namely, the Master and brethren of the Hospital of St John the Evangelist, have left no record of their proceedings in this matter. Since the year 1511, or since the selection of a priest for the spiritual care of Horningsey passed from those brethren to the Master and Fellows of St John's College, it certainly is possible to procure an exact list of the parochial chaplains; but, to compile such a list from the Order Books of the College, would entail more labour, and occupy more time, than it seems to be at all worth while spending upon it.

Nevertheless, that one important portion of a History like this might not be entirely omitted recourse has been had to other available sources of knowledge, as the old wills, the parish registers, and whatever chance notices might anywhere be discovered. From them, (and from an inspection of the more recent Order Books,) a list has been drawn up, extremely defective indeed, though it is conceived quite sufficient to give a satisfactory notion relative to those clergymen, who in quick succession laboured at Horningsey, and who, for the greater part, were little more, as it were, than guests, that tarried but a day. No explanatory remarks of any kind have been added, except to a very few of the earlier names, because the Rev. J. E. B. Mayor has in the press an edition of Baker's *Succinct and Impartial Account of St John's House, and St John's College*; and from the copious notes contained in that publication will be able to be procured every requisite information respecting the parish priests of Horningsey, since with no

exception, perhaps, they were taken out of the existing body of fellows.

Sir *Christopher Wright* was parochial chaplain or curate in 1511. He was one of the three remaining brethren of the Hospital of St John, and was pensioned off with the two others, on their property and buildings being transferred to the Master and Fellows of St John's College. Baker says¹, that he enjoyed both his pension and his curacy several years, and maintained a good port upon his curacy. We find his name as curate also in 1516, and 1528.

John Shaw had the charge of the parish in February, 1517-8.

M. Stevenson was curate in 1523.

Sir *John Belwode* was made chaplain, at a salary of six pounds a year, 21st June, 1532. However, he witnessed Thomas Coyle's will 10th November, 1531².

Sir *Richard Wylkynson*, 25th August, 1543, is called by John Type my ghostly father; and so likewise by Margaret Cole in 1546. The college document respecting him, and his appointment, is dated 31st October, 1544.

Roger Ascham³, in 1551, described the Vice-chancellor of Louvain, as being like in apparel and porte to our priest of Hornyngshire, but he does not mention the name of this priest.

Harry Goodwin held the curacy of Fen Ditton in 1558, and was priest of Horningsey in 1560: probably, he served both parishes, and at the same time.

Richard Hoorde, who had been admitted to his fellowship 6th April, 1593, held the parochial chaplaincy of Horningsey from, at least, 1610 to 1616.

Thomas Wolsey had in 1664 a licence to preach at Horningsey, and elsewhere. He was made vicar of Swaffham Bulbec in the following year. Thomas Wolsey had obtained his

¹ Bishop Fisher's *Sermon*, Pref. p. xxxvii; Baker's *Account*, &c. pp. 18, 50, 71.

² Pp. 43, 49.

³ *English Works*, p. 371, edit. 1761.

fellowship 23rd October, 1658, ex nominatione protectoris, that is, by mandate of Richard Cromwell¹.

Francis Roper describes himself in the parish register as curate in 1676 and 1677. He was collated to the vicarage of Waterbeach 22nd January, 1677-8, and held this living rather more than eight years.

Dr *Robert Lambert's* successor in the chaplaincy was

Dr *William Baker*, who was appointed 28th September, 1722.

Ezekiel Rowse served the parish in 1733.

*Michael Burton*² was curate in 1745 and 1753.

Andrew Alvis was selected for the same office 19th February, 1754.

Thomas Lipyeat's appointment was made 22nd February, 1755.

William Ludlam, 23rd February, 1757.

George Ashby, 18th October, 1765.

Ralph Forster, 28th February, 1766.

John Carr, 25th March, 1773.

Edward Frewen, 9th March, 1774, and 24th March, 1775.

John Yale, 15th March, 1777.

Harry Grove, 25th March, 1779.

William Smith, 11th April, 1783.

George Whitmore, 15th April, 1784.

Jonathan Lipyeat, 31st March, 1785.

William Wood, 26th April, 1786.

William Wade, 25th March, 1787.

Richard Burne, 16th April, 1790.

Thomas Catten, 19th March, 1792.

Thomas Peter Dod Salmon, 22nd March, 1797.

John Romney, 29th September, 1798.

Robert Boon, 14th March, 1799.

William Cooper, 20th March, 1802.

¹ *Baker's Account*, &c. pp. 65, 298.

² *Ibid.* p. 304, note.

Ralph Tatham, 25th March, 1809.

Thomas Jephson, 8th April, 1815.

Richard Gwatkin, 22nd December, 1821.

William Tatham, 17th December, 1823.

Francis Russell Hall, 31st March, 1824.

Richard Twopeny, 16th October, 1826.

Alexander Malcolm Wale, 29th May, 1829.

Thomas Lund, 25th January, 1831.

George Bullock, 20th December, 1838.

William Henry Bateson, 27th January, 1840.

Frederick William Collison, 8th September, 1842.

Augustus Macdonald Hopper, 20th December, 1844.

George Fearn's Reynier, 24th October, 1845.

Churchill Babington, 1st March, 1848.

Arthur Calvert, 4th May, 1861. His nomination as first perpetual curate was dated 28th March, 1862.

Arthur Coles Haviland became the second perpetual curate 13th February, 1864.

MEASUREMENTS OF HORNINGSEY CHURCH.

					FT.	IN.
Internal length	...	...	...	...	112	0
Length of Chancel	...	...	...	...	39	6
Breadth of ditto	...	...	...	...	19	2
Height of Walls	...	...	...	...	18	2
Length of Nave	...	...	...	...	57	0
Breadth of ditto	...	...	...	...	21	8
Height of Arch next Chancel on the south				...	14	3
Ditto of other Arches, about	...		...	...	12	10
Breadth between Pillars of ditto, about	...		...	...	10	7
Height of Pillars including capital, about				...	7	2
Ditto of Walls	...	...	...	...	18	2
Breadth of North Aisle	...	...	...	...	10	10
Height of outward Wall	...	...	...	...	9	0
Breadth of South Aisle	...	...	...	...	11	0
Height of outward Wall	...	...	...	...	13	7
Breadth of Nave and Aisles...	...	...	...	...	43	6
Height of Tower Arch	...	...	...	...	15	4
Breadth between Pillars of ditto	...	...	...	...	9	6
Length of Tower	...	...	...	...	15	6
Breadth of ditto	...	...	...	...	10	6
Height of ditto to bottom of parapet	...	...	...	...	47	0

Page 25, note 1.

The *Lib. Eliens.* Lib. II. cap. 2, describes Wlstanus as being—
Regi [Ædgaro] a secretis, vir prudens, consilio pollens, opibusque potens,
cœlitus inspiratus. Supposing him to have been divino magis instigatus
nutu, quam humano ductus affectu, when speaking in defence of the
site of the old monastery at Ely, he unquestionably was under the
influence of mere human feelings, when he allowed himself to be bought
by the dishonest priest Æthelstan, and when, having become possessor
of the land in Eye per mandatia presbyteri, et per aliquantulum pe-
cuniæ, he withheld it during his life from its legal owner, and from God.

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